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Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 077 *19 April 1979*

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SALAH KHALAF: NO BENEFIT IN DIALOG WITH UNITED STATES

NC181930 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has affirmed that the PLO sees no benefit at present in opening a dialog with the United States. Furthermore, we view such dialog as a waste of time; confronting the Americans now is more important, he said.

He added: We do not oppose a dialog with the United States. However, as long as the United States insists on imposing its unacceptable conditions on us, such as recognition of Security Council Resolution 242, we see no benefit in such a dialog.

In an interview he gave to the Arabic-language newspaper AD-DUSTUR, which is published in London, Abu Iyad said: The U.S. President said one day that it is essential for the Palestinians to have a homeland. A few days later he repeated this statement but with a different interpretation.

Concluding his interview, Abu Iyad said: Because the Americans have so manifestly backed down on this policy, they will see their interests threatened and disturbed all over the world.

PLO PAPER CALLS FOR OPENING ALL BORDERS TO FEDAYEEN ACTION

JN181958 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1939 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 18 April--The newspaper FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH has called for the opening of all borders closed to the Palestinian Arab fedayeen to enable them to wage the Arab nation's battle on the borders of Palestine. The PLO central organ asks: Is it right that a fedayeen unit should cross a distance of 45 kms on foot in order to strike at the enemy's nerves and heart in Bisan Bet She'an?

The paper says that the four fedayeen martyred in Bisan fought in the name of all Arabs and that it is the Arab masses' duty to break the unjust silence and open all the borders.

Concluding its article, the paper says that an all-out attack and the Arabs' battle with imperialism and Zionism leave no choice for anyone: Either one is for Palestine and its revolution, and consequently for the will to fight, or one is for Zionism and consequently favors wavering, retreat and evasive stands.

FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH calls on the Arab masses to fight and torpedo the false Zionist peace.

ISLAMIC GROUP DENOUNCES ZIONIST 'VIOLATIONS' IN JERUSALEM

ID181332 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 18 Apr 79 ID

[Text] Jidda--The Islamic Congress Organization has called on the Islamic countries to take new initiatives aimed at halting the violations of holy Jerusalem by the Zionist enemy. The General Secretariat in a statement today denounces the Zionist enemy machinery for storming the headquarters of the Islamic authority and the Islamic Waqf Department in the holy city, for tearing up copies of the holy Koran and for destroying historic rolls and documents in the library of the Waqf Department.

The statement describes these Zionist actions as contradicting moral values, human principles and international norms. The statement goes on to say that the General Secretariat of the Islamic Congress condemns this assault by the Zionist gangs, as well as their repeated assaults on Islamic sacred places, beginning with the burning of the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

ARAB LEAGUE COMMITTEE IN TUNIS ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS

LD181718 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1611 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The six-man committee set up by the recent meeting of Arab foreign and economy ministers in Baghdad met this morning within the framework of its first series of meetings at the Arab League headquarters in Tunis. The committee looked into possible methods of implementing the resolutions of the Arab League Council issued in Baghdad in connection with the economic [words indistinct]. The meeting was attended by Arab League Assistant Secretary General 'Abd al-Hasan Zalzalah [words indistinct]. The committee adopted a final statement which said, in part:

The committee studied all the steps necessary to implement these resolutions and discussed in detail the proposals for transferring the Arab League headquarters to Tunis. The committee adopted resolutions which will guarantee the completion of this task within the period fixed by the resolution adopted by the Arab League Council in Baghdad.

In this regard, the committee called on all league officials to resume their posts by 28 May 1979. The committee did not distinguish in this respect between the nationals of one Arab state and another. In fact, the basis of the resolutions it adopted was the commitment of the official to the resolutions of the Arab League Council issued in Baghdad and his link with the Arab League in terms of his desire to serve the Arab nation's goals through joint Arab action.

The committee also adopted resolutions which will make funds available to cover the expenses of transferring these officials and their families to the new headquarters of the league. Thanks to the positive cooperation of the Tunisian Government, temporary offices have been chosen to house the General Secretariat in Tunis and to insure suitable accommodations for the officials and their families. The officials will begin to arrive soon and assume their duties.

The Arab League General Secretariat, at the instruction of the committee, has informed all international and regional organizations of the resolution to transfer the league headquarters and has asked them to contact this headquarters in connection with any issue concerning the Arab League. The committee has issued instructions to the league offices abroad to receive their instructions from the league headquarters in Tunis.

The committee also discussed issues concerning the Arab boycott and the Arab strategy for joint economic action. It adopted a number of decisions in this connection. With regard to the protection of the assets, properties and documents of the league, and the securing of the rights of its officials, the committee declares that it does not recognize the measures taken by the Egyptian authorities, including the f ezing of the league's assets, the seizure of its documents and the hinderance of its officials in carrying out their duties.

The statement added that the committee takes this opportunity to express its deep gratitude for the positive and total cooperation of the fraternal Tunisian Government, which spared no effort in eliminating all obstructions and making available every assistance for the implementation of the resolutions of the Arab League Council, particularly those connected with the transfer of the headquarters to Tunis.

The committee will resume its meetings in May to follow up and implement the task with which it was entrusted by the Arab League Council.

ARAB LEAGUE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL ARRIVES IN TUNIS

LD181606 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Muhsin Zalzalah, assistant general secretary of the Arab League responsible for economic affairs, arrived in Tunis last night. Following his arrival he made a statement to TAP in which he expressed his pleasure at joining the General Secretariat to carry out work at its new headquarters in Tunis. He expressed hope that this will be the beginning of a new era and serious work in the service of Arab common action.

ARAB MONETARY FUND SUSPENDS EGYPT'S MEMBERSHIP

JN181409 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 April--The Arab Monetary Fund decided today to suspend the As-Sadat regime's membership indefinitely. This decision was made at the outset of the meetings of the fund's third session, which began in Abu Dhabi today.

The meetings are still continuing in order to discuss the remaining items on the agenda. The meetings are being attended by representatives of the Arab League member states, representatives of the Arab unions and organizations, and an observer from the IMF.

Loan to Egypt Denied

JN191012 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0935 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 April--Dr Jawad Hashim, director of the Arab Monetary Fund, has stated that Egypt's request for a $25 million loan has been rejected. In a statement to INA in Abu Dhabi, he said that the As-Sadat regime requested the loan prior to the Baghdad summit conference. He described the resolution of the monetary fund's board of directors suspending Egypt's membership as the strongest resolution adopted by any Arab fund.

BROADCAST UNION HEADQUARTERS TO MOVE FROM CAIRO TO TUNIS

LD182338 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2105 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, 18 April--The extraordinary general assembly of the Arab Broadcasting Union has decided to move the union's headquarters from Cairo to Tunis as an interim measure, and it has chosen Jerusalem as its permanent headquarters.

It was disclosed in Rabat, where the assembly has been in session since the day before yesterday, that agreement has been reached to break off relations with the Egyptian information media. The Arab Central Union for Audience Research in Baghdad has been requested to draw up a plan for the measures that will be taken in the future with regard to Arab radio and television stations.

ARAB CHEMICAL FERTILIZER PRODUCERS EXCLUDE EGYPT

LD181420 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1252 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--The Arab Federation of Chemical Fertilizers Producers today decided to suspend the membership of Egyptian governmental companies which are members in the federation. The decision was adopted at a meeting here of the governing board of the federation in the light of the Arab countries' decisions to impose political and economic sanctions on Egypt for signing the peace treaty with Israel. The board has made it clear that this decision is not a punishment for the Egyptian people but seeks "to prevent Zionist penetration in this [words indistinct] industry."

ARAB LABOR ORGANIZATION BEGINS MEETINGS IN BAGHDAD

JN181343 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 April--Today Iraqi Labor and Social Affairs Minister Bakr Mahmud Rasul opened the first session of the Arab Labor Organization [ALO] Board of Directors, which will last 3 days.

In his opening address, Rasul expressed hope that the ALO will take the necessary measures to transfer the ALO headquarters from Cairo and to suspend Egypt's membership in the ALO, in implementation of the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference resolutions. He said that Iraq is ready to host all the meetings and the Arab League agencies, including the ALO, in coordination with the fraternal Arab countries.

Rasul said that the aim of the capitulationist treaty signed by traitor As-Sadat is to divide the unity of the Arab ranks, liquidate the Palestine issue and impose the Zionist entity as a fait accompli on the Arab nation.

Rasul affirmed that the Arab nation is capable of foiling this treaty and all imperialist and Zionist attempts, as evidenced by the Baghdad summit conference, in which the Arab leaders announced their condemnation of the treasonous agreement and their solidarity with and material and moral support for the Arab struggle on the path of liberating the usurped Arab lands and firmly and solidly confronting all aggressive plans.

Badr Fadil, chairman of the labor organization for employment and training, was elected chairman of the ALO Board of Directors.

Fadil made a speech in which he emphasized that the ALO Board of Directors will take important measures, including suspending Egypt's membership in the ALO and transferring the ALO headquarters from Cairo.

Afterward, a closed working session was held to prepare and discuss the agenda.

The ALO Board of Directors consists of representatives of 10 Arab countries: Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, the YAR, Tunisia, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Morocco, and Libya. Representatives of the ILO; the Federation of the Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture; the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions; and the Arab League are participating in the ALO session as observers.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER DENOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF 'FREE LEBANON'

LD190940 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0708 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwait has condemned the proclamation of the independence of southern Lebanon by the rightwing Lebanese Militia. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah said in a statement published by AL-QABAS that out of its belief in the preservation of the unity of Lebanon and the integrity of its territory, and its support for legality in Lebanon, Kuwait condemns the establishment of the so-called "Free Lebanon." He added: It is enough to know that Israel is behind this step to realize its aims and designs.

The commander of the rightwing forces, Maj Sa'd Haddad, proclaimed the establishment of the state of "Free Lebanon" at a press conference yesterday at the Israeli town of Metulla near the Lebanese border.

GULF STATES CONSULT ON BREAKING RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

JN190902 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0830 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 19 April--The Arab gulf states are currently holding consultations to agree on the date to break diplomatic relations with Egypt.

The newspapers AL-ANBA' and AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, published here, today report that the delay in breaking relations with Egypt is due to arrangements the gulf states are making to choose countries to care for their interests in Cairo. The papers add that Kuwait has already chosen a friendly nonalined country to look after its interests in Egypt. The name of the state will be announced when Kuwait breaks relations with Egypt.

PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED ON SENEGALESE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

LD181350 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The following press statement was issued at the conclusion of the visit of the Senegalese prime minister, His Excellency Abdou Diouf, to Kuwait which ended today:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful; at the invitation of His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister, His Excellency Abdou Diouf, prime minister of the Republic of Senegal, paid an official visit to the State of Kuwait during the period 16-18 April 1979.

The esteemed guest and his companions were given a warm welcome, which reflects the good relations between the two friendly countries.

His excellency the esteemed guest was received during the visit by his highness the amir of Kuwait, to whom he conveyed a friendly message from His Excellency Leopold Senghor, president of the Republic of Senegal.

In an atmosphere full of amity and understanding, talks were held between His Excellency Abdou Diouf and His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, in which a number of officials from both sides participated.

During these talks, views were exchanged on relations between the two friendly countries and on international issues of mutual interest.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the growth of relations between their respective countries. They expressed their desire to develop means of cooperation between the two friendly countries.

In their views of the international political situation, the two sides reaffirmed the need for all peace-loving and justice-loving states to concentrate their efforts in order to strengthen peace and security throughout the world. They also reaffirmed the importance of observing the principles and basis of international relations, particularly with regard to respecting sovereignty, independence and regional security, the adoption of peaceful means for solving differences among states, and exclusion of the use of force and interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

When discussing the critical and serious situation in the Middle East, the two sides reaffirmed their conviction that a just and lasting peace in the region cannot be realized without an Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the Palestinian people regaining their legitimate national state. They also reaffirmed their countries' support for the PLO, on the basis that it is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. In this connection, the two sides expressed their conviction that real, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be realized without the participation of all sides concerned, including the Palestinian people, within the framework of the United Nations.

The two sides also expressed their conviction that preservation of security and stability in the gulf area is the responsibility of the gulf states alone, without any foreign interference. They stressed the need for making the Indian Ocean a region of peace. The two sides reaffirmed their total support for the African peoples' struggle for the liquidation of colonialism, all forms of foreign domination and the racist minority regimes, in order to attain their freedom and independence. They condemned the hostile acts by the racist regimes in South Africa and Zimbabwe against the African confrontation states. They undertook to continue support of the African liberation movements.

They stressed the significance of the basic principles of the nonalined movement as a fundamental and important factor in supporting peace and progress throughout the world. They also reaffirmed their support for solidarity and cooperation among nonalined states and their rejection of all attempts to split the ranks of the nonalined states.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the results of this visit and stressed the importance of meetings between officials of both countries with the aim of continuing the development of relations of cooperation between their respective friendly countries.

His Excellency Abdou Diouf invited His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah to visit the Republic of Senegal. His highness accepted the invitation with thanks. The date of the visit will be determined through diplomatic channels.

SAUDI ARABIA

PAPERS DENOUNCE SECESSION OF SOUTH LEBANON

LD191002 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0612 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpts] Riyadh--In their editorials today, Saudi newspapers denounce yesterday's declaration by separatist Maj Sa'd Haddad on the secession of southern Lebanon. They describe this action as a "Zionist conspiracy." They also denounce Zionist designs in the region aimed at perpetuating the occupation of Arab territories and usurping the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The papers stress that Palestine and the Palestinian people are the key issue in the Middle East conflict.

Writing about the attitude of Sa'd Haddad, AL-BILAD says that the creation of the Sa'd Haddad entity at the expense of the Lebanese state is not just a grave conspiracy against Lebanon but is undoubtedly a grave conspiracy against the entire region, which after this step will witness creation of other entities.

AR-RIYAD says that Israel is exploiting its loyal agents with the aim of undermining the props of any possible peace in the region. It says that the imaginary security belt must be destroyed by removing the traitors led by Haddad and others. AR-RIYAD stresses that removal of this belt is purely an Arab responsibility, based above all on silencing the traitors inside Lebanon and thwarting their overweening ambitions.

'UKAZ: ZIONIST-COMMUNIST 'COLLUSION' MUST BE CONFRONTED

LD181431 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 5 Apr 79 p 1 LD

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The announcement that 50,000 Russian Jews will be allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union confirms the close ties between world communism and the Zionist movement. This is because Zionist leaders beginning with Theodor Herzl, Marx, Engels, Lenin, Trotskiy and Chaim Weizman and ending with the leaders of the ruling Israeli military establishment are all Jews who have contributed effectively and positively to promoting the communist movement and spreading it.

Although ostensibly there are differences between the Soviet Union and Israel, these differences do not affect the strategic interest in supporting and strengthening the Zionist movement and providing it with the most vital thing for its existence--men.

Members of the Stern and Haganah gangs that usurped Palestine came from the communist countries. Once a senior Soviet official was quoted as saying that enemies of Israel cannot be armed with weapons that would kill communist citizens in Israel.

This link between Zionism and communism leads us to U.S.-Soviet detente policy. Russia is announcing its approval to allow the emigration of such a large number of people in order to please the U.S. Congressmen so that the SALT agreement will be passed. It is also in order to forestall any opposition by the Congress to the passing of bills giving the Soviet Union, under the detente policy, the status of most favored nation by the United States. Such close ties raises a big question over the "game of nations" and the major powers' outlook on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

All these factors confirm the need to confront the communist danger to the area, a danger of which Zionism represents the spearhead and the bridge over which it will seek to achieve its aggressive and expansionist ambitions.

This Zionist-communist collusion, however its proponents may pretend to differ, is the fundamental danger to our present and future. Confronting this danger is necessary for our self-preservation.

UAE

HADDAD'S STATE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON CONDEMNED

JN191020 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0956 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 April--The UAE has denounced plots aimed at partitioning Lebanon and undermining its unity.

Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, told the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY today that the UAE supports Lebanon's unity and integrity and the efforts being made by the legitimate Lebanese Government to exercise its authority and sovereignty throughout the country, particularly in southern Lebanon and the border strip adjoining the Israeli enemy.

Following his meeting today with Mahmud Hamud, Lebanese ambassador to the UAE, 'Abdallah said that the Lebanese ambassador briefed him on the developments in Lebanon in light of the declaration by Maj Sa'd Haddad of the establishment of the so-called free and independent state of Lebanon.

'Abdallah said that the UAE supports all efforts by the legitimate Government of Lebanon to preserve Lebanon's unity and independence.

ECONOMIC TALKS WITH U.S. CONTINUE; AS-SAYIH COMMENTS

NC181717 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--Economic talks took place today between the Egyptian side led by Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Hamid as-Sayih, and the U.S. side led by U.S. President Jimmy Carter's special trade adviser, Robert Strauss. The meeting was attended on the Egyptian side by the ministers of finance, economic cooperation and industry.

After the meeting Dr as-Sayih stated that he explained to the U.S. side economic conditions in Egypt and the efforts which the government is currently exerting to encourage the private sector and foreign investments in Egypt within the framework of the economic open-door policy. Dr as-Sayih added that during this meeting he also explained President Anwar as-Sadat's idea regarding the Carter plan, in line with the Marshall Plan, to be implemented in Egypt.

The economy minister said that he reviewed with the U.S. side the problems facing the Egyptian economy following 30 years of wars during which Egypt was occupied with the liberation of the occupied territory and arms spending--something which caused a deterioration in the basic utilities in Egypt. Dr as-Sayih explained to the U.S. side that Egypt is focusing in the era of peace on providing food and housing and repairing utilities. He said that he also explained that these subjects and plans require a large amount of money, advanced technology and preparation of suitable technical cadres. Egypt will attempt to provide these through the friendly and big states to tackle the problems of the Egyptian economy within an appropriate time frame.

The economy and foreign trade minister said that they also discussed in detail the civil problems in Egypt, most important of which are housing and food. He noted that U.S. businessmen in the delegation expressed eagerness to participate in urgent projects in Egypt. Dr as-Sayih added that they also discussed all the obstacles facing the U.S. investor in Egypt, ways to attract him and the role official U.S. institutions can play in overcoming the difficulties keeping the U.S. investor from coming to Egypt.

Dr as-Sayih said that the discussions showed that there are big possibilities for increasing Egyptian exports to the United States and for establishing joint enterprises in Egypt with U.S. investors, particularly in the field of ready-made clothes and food industries. The products of such ventures would be earmarked for export to U.S. markets.

Concluding his statement, the minister said that this meeting is just the first of many aimed at adopting practical measures for cooperation and joint investment between Egypt and the United States. The U.S. delegation arrived in Cairo yesterday on a few days' visit to Egypt.

Delegation Departs for Israel

NC190842 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0823 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 April--The U.S. trade-economic delegation under Mr Robert Strauss, special trade representative of U.S. President Jimmy Carter, left Cairo for Israel this morning at the end of a visit to Egypt.

Strauss arrived in Cairo 2 days ago. He held talks with President Anwar as-Sadat and ministers of the economic group which dealt with economic topics and the best ways for cooperation between the Egyptian and U.S. private sectors.

The delegation was seen off by U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Hermann Eilts.

DEFENSE MINISTER 'ALI INTERVIEWED BY RADIO

NC190650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2330 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that Egypt, in view of its history in the area, will not hesitate to extend aid to any Arab country that requests it. He also said that there is another commitment to the African countries, adding that Egypt has stood on the side of the African liberation movements and given aid to many of them.

In an interview with the [Egyptian] Middle East Radio tonight, the defense minister affirmed that in the forthcoming peace stage Egypt will honor its commitments to the other friendly and fraternal countries in accordance with existing agreements.

Asked whether the armed forces will be able to use Soviet and U.S. weapons simultaneously, the defense minister said that when Egypt receives the U.S. weapons, it will put them into use in accordance with its plan for the development of the armed forces. Egypt will use the U.S. weapons to fill certain gaps caused by the suspension of Soviet arms exports to Egypt.

The defense minister added that Egypt can absorb all advanced technologies because of the advanced infrastructure of its armed forces.

Asked whether Egypt would cut down its defense budget in the peace stage, Lt Gen 'Ali said that Egypt has its historic role, and in accordance with this role and with the requirements of defense, Egypt will adopt the appropriate budget.

Asked if military service age would be reduced from 35 to 30 years, the defense minister answered that this is under consideration. He added that he might recommend this to the next session of the People's Assembly following the conclusion of the initial withdrawal to the Al-'Arish--Ra's Muhammad line.

Asked about the spheres in which the armed forces could participate in the peace stage, Lt Gen 'Ali said that the armed forces would be ready to participate in economic development projects, such as food security projects, roads, tunnels and telephone networks. He explained that such participation would be within the framework of the surplus potentials of the armed forces and in order to ease certain aspects of the people's suffering.

EXCHANGE OF RATIFICATION DOCUMENTS TO TAKE PLACE 25 APR

NC181447 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--MENA has learned that the ceremony for the exchange of the instruments of ratification of the peace treaty, which was scheduled to take place next Sunday, has been postponed until Wednesday, 25 April, due to the holidays.

MENA has also learned that Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali will head the Egyptian delegation to the ceremony in the event Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan heads his country's delegation. But if the Israeli delegation is headed by somebody else, another official of the same level will head the Egyptian delegation.

Upon the exchange of the instruments of ratification on 25 April, the first stage of Israeli withdrawal from Sinai will begin. This stage will include 75 percent of Sinai and will take 9 months.

Al-'Arish will come under Egyptian sovereignty effective 26 May.

GOVERNMENT REJECTS SUSPENSION FROM MONETARY FUND

NC181900 Cairo MENA in English 1715 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Abu Dhabi, April 18--(MENA)--The Arab Republic of Egypt denounced a proposal by some Arab countries to suspend Egypt's membership in the Arab Monetary Fund and declared her rejection of the proposal in matter and spirit.

Head of the Egyptian delegation to the meetings of the governors of the Arab Monetary Fund currently held here, Mahmud 'Abd al-Mawjud, said that the proposal is illegitimate for it has no basis in the fund's charter.

Addressing the furi's meeting, 'Abd al-Mawjud said the funds agreement provided in its 37th article that the suspension of any country's membership should be decided if that country failed to fulfill its commitments towards the fund. He warned against the serious consequences arising from accepting the proposal on Arab and international economic relations.

The approval of the proposal will create a dangerous precedence in the history of the Arab nation and constitute a threat to the principle of respecting international conventions. It will also pose a threat to the fate of the entire Arab world in maintaining its economic and financial conventions and commitments, 'Abd al-Mawjud added.

The Egyptian chief delegate announced Egypt's rejection of putting this topic on the agenda of the meeting and her reservations over any relevant resolution.

The Egyptian delegation withdrew from the closed session in which the proposal was put to discussion. The Sudan, Sultanate of Oman and Somalia refused to support the proposal which was submitted by Jordan, Bahrain, Syria, Kuwait, Iraq, Qatar, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Mauritania, Palestine, North Yemen, South Yemen, Algeria and the United Arab Emirates.

'SEPARATIST MOVEMENT' IN S. LEBANON DENOUNCED

NC182017 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0000 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has stated that the Arab Republic of Egypt strongly denounces the separatist movement in southern Lebanon. The source added that Egypt's firm policy is strong support for the independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

In this connection, Egypt also denounces all irresponsible activity and outside intervention which have been exploited by those who want to destroy the unity of Lebanon and which threaten world peace and security in the Middle East.

AL-AHRAM ASSAILS SYRIA FOR SITUATION IN LEBANON

NC190928 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Press review]

[Excerpts] The Cairo papers today highlight the serious developments which have taken place in south Lebanon. The papers point out that the leader of the rightist militias in southern Lebanon, Maj Sa'd Haddad, yesterday declared the establishment of the state of free and independent Lebanon. Writing on this subject, AL-AHRAM expresses the belief that this foolish action by Major Haddad cannot be condoned by any logic or reason. Concern for Lebanon's security and territorial integrity is a matter which is directly linked with the security of the entire Arab homeland and the independence of an Arab country. Thus, any infringement on Lebanon's status is treason not only to the Lebanese people but to the Arab people everywhere.

AL-AHRAM points out that Major Haddad's action did not begin today; it began on the day the Syrian forces occupied Lebanese territory. Beginning on that date, Major Haddad established a state within a state for himself, and he has been collaborating with Israel while the Syrian forces have remained spectators. Furthermore, whenever Israeli forces have attacked southern Lebanon, the Syrian leaders have ignored the attack. When the situation became unbearable the Syrian Ba'thist propaganda trumpets said that Syria would not permit anyone to drive it into battle and that it would be the one to determine the time and place of the battle. AL-AHRAM adds: In all that is taking place in shouthern Lebanon, the Syrian Ba'thist leadership has not found a reason for moving or for setting the time and place of the battle it promised. We want to ask today: Does the Syrian leadership, in view of Major Haddad's secessionist move, still believe that the time has not yet come for protecting Lebanon, which is occupied by the Syrian forces? Moreover, after all these developments, is it logical for the Arab countries which go along with Syria's policy to leave the reins of power in the hands of a wretched leadership which is incapable of waging war or making peace? AL-SHRAM further asks: Is it possible for the Arab states to allow the Syrian 'Alawite Ba'thists to manipulate the destiny of Lebanon to such an extent that a Lebanese major has been able to take the step he has taken? Will the Syrian military occupation forces in Lebanon continue to be able to muzzle mouths and restrain the Lebanese press from expressing its views and defending the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon? In conclusion, AL-AHRAM says: We post all these questions to those who have allowed confusion to spread to such an extent and who have preoccupied themselves in making decisions against Egypt merely because of rancor, malice and eagerness to maintain their power and the domination of the Ba'th Party, whether in Syria or its best friend, the Iraqi Ba'th Party in Iraq.

CHARGE IN SAN'A' DENIES REPORTS OF EXPULSION

NC180543 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2233 GMT 17 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 17 April--Muhammad 'Abduh Makhluf, the charge d'affaires of the embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in San'a', has denied news agency reports issued today that the Yemeni Foreign Ministry had told him to leave San'a' with the embassy staff in implementation of the resolutions of the Baghdad foreign ministers conference.

On the other hand, sources of the Yemeni Foreign Ministry said that Egypt has no ambassador in San'a' to communicate this decision to in accordance with the Baghdad resolutions. These sources denied that they informed the Egyptian charge d'affaires to leave San'a'.

DELEGATION REPORTEDLY WILL ATTEND CUBA CONFERENCE

NC180750 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0720 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--The Cairo weekly magazine AKHIR SA'AH reports today that Egypt will participate with a high-level delegation in the meetings of the nonalined summit conference scheduled for the middle of this year in Cuba.

The magazine publishes a statement by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali in which he says that Egypt will defend the nonalined movement at the conference in confirmation of Egypt's adherence to its nonalined commitments and because Egypt established this movement with India and Yugoslavia and continues to defend it.

Dr Ghali added that Egypt will work to protect the nonalined movement from some states that are alined with the Soviet communist camp and are hiding their alinement under the name of nonalinement. Foremost of these states is Cuba itself.

MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS TO BE HELD IN SAFAJAH

NC171536 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Apr 79 NC

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat has approved a proposal by Manpower Minister Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad that the 1 May workers day celebrations this year be held in the city of Safajah on the Red Sea, when the president--as is his custom--will meet with Egyptian workers.

SYRIAN ARAB LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE LEAVES FOR TUNIS

NC181720 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1638 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--Ma'mun al-Atasi, Syria's permanent representative at the Arab League, left Cairo for Tunis today.

DEFENSE MINISTER LEAVES FOR SOMALIA, DJIBOUTI

NC190831 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0825 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 April--Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali this morning left Cairo for Mogadiscio on a 3-day visit to Somalia and Djibouti.

MORE ON SADDAM HUSAYN'S 8 APR SPEECH ON ARABS, SOVIETS

ID190925 Baghdad ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 9 Apr 79 p 5 LD

["Text" of speech by Vice Chairman of Revolution Command Council Saddam Husayn to athletes in Baghdad on 8 April]

[Excerpts] The following is the full text of Saddam Husayn's speech at his meeting yesterday with sports delegations that took part in the fifth Arab gulf soccer tournament:

We are very happy to meet with you and glad that you have come to Iraq, your country, after the sports activities in which you have taken part as an expression of the present growing sporting spirit in the Arab homeland.

We did not wish to talk politics to you but it appears that we must do so following the convening of the Arab foreign and economic affairs ministers conference in Baghdad which adopted resolutions which have been announced to you publicly. Some of the Arab countries did not attend this meeting but we hope that they will have the opportunity or the ability, through understanding, to join the rest of the united Arab family that expresses the genuine Arab stand.

We are pained because there are certain Arab rulers who, though few in number, are causing harm to Arab unanimity. But the harm they cause to themselves will be even much greater. I do not think that the Arab peoples will tolerate such rulers, but we pray that you will be patient as we realize that this is unacceptable to you. The resolutions are not an expression of the Arab rulers who are unanimous in implementing the Baghdad resolutions and rejecting the stand into which the Egyptian ruler has slipped but rather an expression of the nation's conscience. The nation would probably demand greater sanctions but the minimum we have agreed upon is reasonable. Those who can express their stand in a better and more effective manner must do so.

All of us in the country, young people and leadership, are called upon to establish traditions or a particular type. If a foreigner violates Arab sovereignty we will stand up against him regardless of his color. Here we do not differentiate between progressive and nonprogressive, Zionist or Frenchman, or Soviet or American. We are against anyone who violates Arab land. We will take up arms [against such a violator] regardless of his friendly relations with us or of the friendly relations that he may have with some of us on the official level. While friends of the Soviets, we cannot allow them to occupy the land of the Saudis for otherwise we would not be Arabs, because Saudi Arabia does not lie outside the Arab map and contains our heritage more than any other land. The Saudis are our brothers on earth. The same applies to Oman. If tomorrow, for example, it is reported that the Pakistani Army is occupying Oman you will find the Iraqi Army fighting the Pakistani Army regardless of our attitude toward the ruler of Oman, which is a different matter.

If our geographical position enables us to fight the Pakistani Army even before the Omani Army engages it, then we will do so because it is an Arab land inhabited by Arabs. The same applies to the UAE, Jordan or Palestine.

For this reason we were very hurt because some Arab rulers--a well-known minority--did not attend the Arab foreign and economic affairs ministers conference.

When the question involved is whether we are with the Arabs or against them, failure to attend could only be against the Arabs.

The issue was that we only wanted them to say that this man is a traitor, to say "traitor" unequivocally. The word "traitor" was not mentioned at all in any of the resolutions of the Arab foreign and economic affairs ministers conference. The resolutions are not aimed at meting out punishment in the sense of advancing in order to eliminate Israel but primarily at defending the Arabs against this traitor; this act is in self-defense. The aim of self-defense is to prevent the Zionist danger from transferring via this traitor to Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait or Oman for the purpose of subverting the peoples, and land, the holy places and our heritage. Nevertheless, there are still some who believe that this is a matter of opinion. The time has come for us to revolt with all our strength against such regimes, to encourage revolution and to give such revolution all the strength we can wherever rulers of this kind exist. We would do so without embarassment or hesitation and without trying to inflict any unjustifiable harm against any Arab because the idea is not to harm Arabism but rather to defend it.

It is our right as a pople and as citizens to defend ourselves and save our heritage from occupation. Do we not all agree that Jerusalem is a holy place to which our ancient and contemporary history is linked? Do we not all agree that Palestine is part of the Arab homeland's political map? Is this not a fact? Is it not wrong to say that we cannot liberate it and therefore we must sell it. Selling is the Egyptian ruler's business because he not only received the price but also gave more [to Israel]. The Zionists occupied part of Sinai but the Egyptian ruler gave them the whole of Egypt. He is adding Egypt's capabilities to those of the Zionists against the Arab nation.

The question now is how we can prepare ourselves and how we can create opportunities in order to overcome our enemy one day. We are capable of doing so and you will see in your lifetime how the Arabs will be able to do so. You will see the predicament in which the Zionist entity will find itself in the next 20 years. What happened to us? Can we not wait 20 years? It is not such a long time. Can we not wait 30 years? Our forefathers waited for 200 years.

This traitorous ruler wants to introduce the tradition of defeat to all the Arabs and not just to Egypt alone. But we assure you that the Arab nation is in constant resurgence. A few days ago I met with some Arab journalists. I told them that if we have no measure to gauge the Arab nation's resurgence, let us take one single example as a measure. In the past a minor official of his majesty's foreign office used to come on a visit to the Arab homeland and used to take back in his bag much more in quality and quantity than what they [presumably the enemies] are now trying to take.

Now Carter comes personally in what is known as a shuttle visit in the hope of obtaining something. He imagines that the Arabs have been subdued or have surrendered either out of conviction or out of submission to the inevitable. But the result is that the Arabs refuse what he wants. Only one among all the Arabs has done what Carter wanted--it is this defeated traitor.

They claim that the Zionist entity is backed by major powers. But was it not you who fought against the world's two biggest empires and triumphed against them? Are you not the same people who fought the Persians and the Byzantines, triumphed against them and expelled them from Syria and Iraq and then took Islam to Iran? It was you and nobody else who did this. You are the grandchildren of those who achieved all those victories.

All you have to do is to discover yourselves--just discover yourselves--and then you will find that you are capable not only of fulfilling your mission with the boundaries of the Arab homeland but also of helping mankind with justice and equality in every part of the world because you have done this before. The Arabs are the only nation whose civilization did not aim at enslaving the world's people. Their civilization always illuminated the path for the world's people in order to enrich their ties with the earth as well as their ties with heaven.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES LETTER FROM 'ARAFAT

JN181334 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 April--Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, has received a letter from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat dealing with the latest developments in the Palestine issue. The letter was delivered by Muhammad Abu Mayzar, official in charge of foreign relations of the Fatah movement, when Saddam Husayn received him this morning. The meeting was attended by Na'im Haddan, member of the national command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and official in charge of the Palestine and armed struggle bureau at the national command.

REPRESENTATIONAL AUTHORITY OF EGYPTIAN EMBASSIES SUSPENDED

JN181307 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1116 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 April--The Iraqi Foreign Ministry today decided to suspend the authority of the Egyptian Embassy in New Zealand to handle Iraq's consular and trade interests in New Zealand. A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry said that the above decision also applies to all other Egyptian embassies which are handling Iraqi interests in those countries where Iraq has no resident ambassadors.

GOVERNMENT CALLS FOR DEBATE ON PALESTINE AT UN

JN191000 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0810 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] United Nations, 19 April--Iraq has called on the UN General Assembly to place the Palestine question and the situation in the Arab area on the agenda of its coming session. In a message to the UN General Assembly, the Security Council and UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim, Iraq states that the United Nations must not allow itself to be linked to the traitorous treaty which traitor As-Sadat signed with the Zionist enemy under U.S. auspices. The message points out that the traitorous treaty and the signing took place outside the UN framework. The treaty contravenes the UN resolutions which recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

TRADE TALKS WITH HUNGARY CONVENE IN BAGHDAD

JN181405 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1305 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 April--The permanent Iraqi-Hungarian Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation began the meetings of its fifth session today to draft a plan for bilateral scientific, technical and trade cooperation for the current year.

The Iraqi side was headed by Hasan 'Ali, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and minister of trade; and the Hungarian side was headed by Gyula Szeker, the Hungarian deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

In a speech made at the beginning of the meeting, the RCC member stressed the need to develop trade and technical cooperation between Iraq and Hungary and to find ways of coordinating between the two countries' institutions in order to insure the necessary requirements for implementing development and services projects in Iraq. He said that Iraq has given exceptional attention to the development of economic and trade cooperation with the socialist countries in harmony with the spirit of friendship that links it with these countries. Hasan 'Ali explained that it is important that the two sides carry out trade feasibility studies to assess the needs of the two countries' markets for each other's manufactured goods and products as a prelude to drafting plans to expand bilateral trade cooperation.

The Hungarian Council of Ministers deputy chairman referred to the great development in Hungary's trade relations with the Arab countries in general and with Iraq in particular. He affirmed Hungary's willingness to implement the trade plans signed by the two countries for increasing the volume of trade between them and providing for Hungarian participation in the development of industrial operations in Iraq by training Iraqi personnel and by implementing various industrial, health and agricultural projects.

The committee will discuss areas of cooperation between firms in the Iraqi public sector and Hungarian firms, the scientific and technical cooperation plan, and the drafting of a plan for bilateral trade cooperation for the current year.

The Iraqi side in the talks includes Midhat Nuri, director general of trade relations with the socialist countries at the Ministry of Trade, and representatives of the ministries of transport, agriculture and agrarian reform, communications, public works and housing, oil and foreign affairs; the Hungarian side includes Sandor Udvardi, deputy minister of foreign trade, representatives of a number of Hungarian firms and companies, and the Hungarian ambassador in Baghdad.

Szeker, Al-Karim Meeting

JN181433 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 April--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and minister of oil, and Gyula Szeker, Hungarian deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, discussed ways of strengthening bilateral relations in the areas of oil projects and the exchange of expertise.

In their meeting today the two ministers discussed Iraqi-Hungarian relations in general and ways of strengthening these relations. The meeting was attended by Muhammad Jabir Hasan, undersecretary of the Ministry of Planning; 'Ali Hadi al-Jabir, vice chairman of the Iraqi National Oil Company; a number of Iraqi officials; and members of the Hungarian delegation accompanying Gyula Szeker.

The Hungarian Council of Ministers deputy chairman also met with Sa'dun Ghaydan, RCC member and minister of communications. They discussed Iraqi-Hungarian cooperation in the fields of telecommunications, services and port installations.

The Hungarian Council of Ministers deputy chairman is visiting Iraq at the head of a delegation to attend the meetings of the economic and technical joint committee.

ARAB SCIENCE ORGANIZATION SUSPENDS EGYPT

JN181706 Amman JNA in Arabic 1550 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] Amman, 18 April--The General Assembly of the Arab Organization for Administrative Sciences [AOAS] decided during its meeting in Amman today to suspend the membership of the Arab Republic of Egypt and to immediately transfer the AOAS headquarters from Cairo to Amman.

Those taking part in the meetings of the current session are Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Libya, Iraq, YAR, Morocco, Bahrain, Palestine, Syria, UAE, Qatar, Lebanon and Tunisia.

These meetings take place in accordance with the decisions of the conference of Arab foreign and economy ministers held in Baghdad on 27 March 1979.

AR-RA'Y CONDEMNS DECLARATION OF MINISTATE IN LEBANON

JN190955 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AR-RA'Y comments today on the situation in southern Lebanon after the deployment of a Lebanese Army unit there and after Sa'd Haddad's declaration of what he calls an independent state in southern Lebanon.

AR-RA'Y says: Israel announced yesterday through its agent Sa'd Haddad the independence of the border strip which Israel has controlled since the middle of March 1978. The declaration of this state is a farce. However, it reveals to a great extent the concept of cantons with which Israel wants to surround itself now that it has insured that the Siani is no longer a threat from the south.

Israel, which has asked through its agent Haddad for the resignation of Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis, appears to be trying to remind Lebanon that it is a principal party to the conflict in Lebanon and that it has the ability to establish a similar canton which would include east and south Beirut and a number of villages on the coast.

Israel realizes that the Lebanese authorities are still too weak to confront Sa'd Haddad in the south. Thus it announced the independence of southern Lebanon to demonstrate that not only is the Lebanese regime helpless, but that the United Nations is unable to implement Security Council Resolutions 425, 426 and 444 and well as Resolutions 181, 194, 242 and 338.

The establishment of Haddad's canton as a new Jewish ghetto in a new part of Arab territory constitutes a blatant challenge to the Arab conscience and is a test of the extent of the Arab nation's readiness to shoulder its pan-Arab responsibility at this bad stage of history.

In order to insure that the creation of Haddad's canton does not become a prelude to similar actions that Israel will support in the Arab world, the pan-Arab duty dictates that the Arab nation uproot this serious phenomenon and nip it in the bud before it finds ways to survive and spread along the confrontation lines with the enemy.

COLUMNIST WARNS OF POSSIBLE ISRAELI INVASION

JN181116 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 18 Apr 79 p 18 JN

[Naji 'Abd al-'Aziz article: "Israel's Threats Against Jordan" in the "Behind the News" column]

[Text] Since its establishment, Israel has been accustomed to preceding its aggression against any Arab state by having its media fabricate security incidents and accuse the victim state of being responsible for those incidents. Israel paved the way for its 1956 attack on Egypt in collaboration with its French and British allies by accusing Egypt of instigating the Gaza Arabs to attack Israel and by saying that Israel had no choice but to retaliate with force. In 1967 the Israeli media gave the world public to understand that Egypt, Syria and Jordan wanted to wipe out Israel and that they were encouraging Palestinian fedayeen terrorist acts and sabotage operations inside Israel. Then Israel surprised the whole world with a blitzkrieg in which it occupied Sinai, the Golan and the West Bank. Israel did the same thing 2 years ago when it occupied southern Lebanon.

For the past 2 days now, Israel has been waging an intensive campaign of threats against Jordan. Following an incident in which Palestinian resistance men stormed Israeli installations in Bet Shean, the Israeli interior minister stated that Jordan must realize the seriousness of permitting the fedayeen to infiltrate from Jordanian territory to attack Israel. The commander of the northern Israeli front was even more specific and impudent. He said that if such incidents continue, Israel will repeat in Jordan what it did in southern Lebanon.

We said last week that Israel, backed by the United States, is determined to use every means, including threats, to force the Arabs, especially Syria and Jordan, to accept the Zionist-U.S. plans in the Middle East, and that they will fabricate incidents to give Israel an excuse to strike first at Jordan and then at Syria. So here are the Israeli leaders' statements and threats confirming what we have said. Israel has actually begun paving the way for invading Jordan in accordance with a plan drawn up since the beginning of the negotiations between Israel and Egypt and since Jordan's and Syria's refusal to participate in those humiliating negotiations which disavowed all Arab rights.

We are now clearly and undoubtedly facing a premeditated Israeli invasion of Jordan. As we have said before, the expansionist Zionist policy, which is condoned and supported by the United States, wants to force Jordan and Syria to accept Israel's terms. They must either accept Israel's existence in the areas it occupied in the Golan and the West Bank for its security, as it claims, or face the consequences of their rejection.

To answer and foil these plans and to force Israel to give up every inch of our pure Arab territory which it occupied aggressively and treacherously, we say: Unless the Arab states--especially Jordan, Syria and Iraq--realize the gravity of these Israeli threats and try to foil them with all their resources and with full maturity, sincerity, coordination and readiness, the conspiracy will be carried out and the invasion will take place at a time we are not prepared for it. It will then be too late.

We hope that the treaty of humiliation and capitulation between Egypt and Israel has opened our eyes to the Israeli danger and has illuminated the way for the Arab states so they will discard their differences, close their ranks and act rationally together to stop and remove this impending danger.

The Arab states must change their policy of dealing with their peoples so that henceforth the defense of the homeland will not be restricted to what is being planned or demanded by the official organs. These organs must cooperate with the existing social organizations in their countries--constitutional institutions, professional unions, trade unions, associations and other organizations--so that these organizations can attain an advanced level, be well structured and become a source of strength for the leaders of those countries. In this way, both government officials and citizens will work as one, with a collective spirit and with faith. Only then can they insure victory over their enemies and foil enemy plans and conspiracies.

AR-RA'Y ON U.S. OPERATION TO PRESSURE ARABS

JN190917 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Apr 79 pp 1, 16 JN

[Text] Washington--Sources close to the U.S. Congress say that the United States is preparing to launch a military operation in the Middle East. The United States is paving the way for this operation and waiting for a certain situation to arise in the area to justify its intervention.

Circles close to President Carter's administration say that more than one Arab country will be the target of CIA plans to create support for the Egyptian ruler's course and to make it easy for certain Arab countries to join the capitulation to the enemy.

A certain U.S. official points out that in the past the United States drew up a plan to send U.S. forces to Libya to protect the oil wells. This plan was recently revived but the tool which will be used to strike at the Libyan forces has been changed. This official further says that the Egytian regime has been informed of this plan and has agreed that Egyptian forces will implement it.

The United States is also preparing to incite internal troubles in the confrontation states through Israel; accordingly, Israel will initiate the plan with a series of border violations. This aggression would give the United States justification to implement the second part of the plan with the help of internal parties.

There is no indication that the operation will succeed. On the contrary, such an operation would raise a counterreaction that would affect U.S. interests in the area and further weaken the Cairo regime.

PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE DENOUNCES HADDAD'S DECLARATION

NC182035 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] In reply to the declaration made by officer Sa'd Haddad, who is wanted for court martial, the Directorate General of the President's Office has issued the following statement:

While strongly denouncing this attitude, the Lebanese authority emphasizes that it does not give any consideration to what was declared by this officer. He has been rejected by the army, which has referred him to the military judiciary because his attitude involves departure from legitimacy and an attempt to divide the homeland.

On this occasion, the authority points out that the country's president, who represents the (?summit) of legitimacy, derives his status and power from the provisions of the constitution, according to which he preserves Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity to which he committed himself in the constitutional oath.

Naturally, all the countries in both the Arab and international spheres will not credit the declaration made by this officer with more than it deserves. Undoubtedly, these countries will adopt the attitude toward this officer that is dictated by their knowledge of his background.

Speaker al-As'ad Comments

NC191210 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Kamil al-As'ad today made a statement in which he commented on the position of Sa'd Haddad and the armed militias cooperating with Israel. Speaker al-As'ad said: This position taken by the agent clique surprises no one, because it is an extension of the aggression which Israel has been and is still practicing under the guise of the so-called Lebanese forces.

If this position contains anything new, it is the fact that it has finally unmasked the conspiracy which is primarily aimed at partitioning Lebanon--and Israel has been behind this conspiracy from the beginning.

Israel's announcement at this time of the secessionist Lebanese state has rebutted all the slogans the enemy has used to mislead some sectors of Lebanese public opinion concerning the call for partition. It has come as a nervous Israeli reaction to the Lebanese Army's entry into the south. Furthermore, this position has revealed the partitioning plot, and this revelation will definitely abort this plot.

Al-Jumayyil Reaction

NC181820 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] The first Lebanese comment on Major Haddad's declaration of independence came from Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, whom we contacted a short time ago. Al-Jumayyil said: Our great plight has been the statelets created within the state of Lebanon. We were surprised by the declaration of a state on Lebanon's border. We believe that free Lebanon is that which is embodied by Lebanese legitimacy and the will of all the people of Lebanon.

AL-HUSS RETURNS FROM DAMASCUS, COMMENTS ON SOUTH

NC181840 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss arrived in Beirut at 1930 today following a visit to Damascus, concluding his tour of some Arab capitals to present the Lebanese question in the light of developments.

At 1300 today, Prime Minister al-Huss met for 3 and ½ hours with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to discuss the general situation. The meeting was attended by Syrian Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Answering reporters' questions after the meeting, Prime Minister al-Huss said subjects of interest to the two fraternal countries, including the southern Lebanon question, were reviewed. It was also an opportunity to discuss with President Hafiz al-Asad the general political and security situation in Lebanon. During the discussions, alternatives were proposed to the solution which could be adopted for the current problems in the Lebanese arena. Prime Minister al-Huss added: The talks were, in general, positive, fruitful and extremely useful.

Question: Did the discussions touch on the possibility of a summit meeting between Presidents Ilyas Sarkis and Hafiz al-Asad?

Answer: There is nothing to prevent a meeting between the two presidents. If the need arises such a meeting will be held. We hope this will happen in the future.

Question: Would you comment on the border strip forces shelling of the Lebanese Army battalion?

Answer: Nothing can change our decision regarding the south. As I said this morning, the land is ours and the cause is ours and nothing can alter our determination to restore southern Lebanon to the orbit of Lebanese legitimacy and sovereignty.

Question: During your Arab tour some officials expressed a willingness to continue to finance the deterrent forces. What was the Syrian stand following the withdrawal of the Saudi contingent and the decision to withdraw the UAE forces?

Answer: The situation concerns the Lebanese Government. The Arab Deterrent Forces are present in Lebanon in accordance with a decision of the Lebanese Government and a decision based on the request by the Lebanese Government. The Arab Deterrent Forces will remain in Lebanon as long as the legitimate authority requests their presence and until their job is finished.

VOICE OF LEBANON ON ARMY DEPLOYMENT, ARTILLERY SHELLING

NC181612 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] The deployment of the Lebanese Army in the UN operations area was completed at 1100 today when units of the army took up positions alongside the Netherlands, Irish, Fijian, Senegalese and Nigerian contingents. Prior to that, three artillery shells fell on the Senegalese forces area, three on Tibnin and five on the Nigerian forces area in Haris, while the UN command in An-Naqurah was subjected to bursts of fire.

The UN forces returned the fire. There were no casualties. Gunmen attempted to blow up the helicopter station in An-Naqurah but the UN forces foiled the attempt by opening fire. The artillery shelling was also directed at An-Nabatiyah and its outskirts and the positions of the Lebanese battalion which had been halted in Kawkaba.

Voice of Palestine Report

NC181903 [Clandestine] Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 18 Apr 79 NC

[Text] The military spokesman of the central command of the joint forces has stated the following:

1. Since 0920 today the Zionist-isolationist alliance has been indiscriminately shelling Ar-Rashidiyah camp, Burj ash-Shamali, Juwayya and Wadi Sir.

2. At 1205 today the Zionist-isolationist alliance forces intensified the artillery shelling of (Ash-Shabbihah) area.

3. At 1220 today the Zionist-isolationist enemy intensified its artillery and rocket firing on Burj ash-Shamali camp.

4. At 1400 today the Zionist-isolationist enemy shelled Al-Hawsh area.

LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

JN181316 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss arrived in Damascus at 1130 today on a 1-day visit. He was received at the Syrian-Lebanese border by Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi.

Speaking to a SANA correspondent, Dr al-Huss said: It is very normal to visit Damascus every now and then to hold talks with senior Syrian officials, particularly with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, and review together topical issues and issues of the common interest. We have many issues in common because of the very special and distinguished relations between our two countries.

Dr al-Huss added: The most important issue to be discussed with the fraternal Syrians is that of southern Lebanon, which today will be the scene of a very important development: A Lebanese army battalion is entering the area, as a first step, and this will be followed by other steps. We have coordinated with the United Nations in implementing this step. Therefore, it is natural and necessary to meet with our brothers in Syria, particularly in light of the recent events and developments in the Arab world and in Lebanon.

I believe that there is no need to list the issues we are going to discuss because these issues are of current interest and are well-known.

Meeting With Al-Asad

JN181647 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad received Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss at the presidential palace this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Muhammad 'ali al-Halabi and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Earlier Dr al-Huss said in a statement to a SANA correspondent that among the issues he will discuss with the Syrian officials headed by President Hafiz al-Asad, is that of southern Lebanon, which is witnessing a prominent positive development today. He added: Our meeting with our brothers in Syria has become necessary, particularly after recent developments in the Arab region, including Lebanon.

Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi also made a statement in which he said that the meeting taking place between the Lebanese and Syrian officials are always in the interest of Lebanon and Syria, as well as in that of the Arab cause. He added that today's meeting acquires a special importance under these circumstances, particularly after the signing of the treasonous treaty between Begin and As-Sadat. Among the aims of this treaty, he added, was the attempt to disrupt the Arab front in order to create divisions in the Arab homeland.

Regarding the Arab Deterrent Forces, the prime minister said: These forces entered Lebanon with clear pan-Arab tasks, so as to preserve the unity of Lebanon, its territorial integrity and the unity of its people. The Arab Deterrent Forces, he said, will continue their tasks in Lebanon until these aims--including protection of the Palestinian resistance--are achieved. He affirmed that the presence of the Lebanese forces in the south is an attempt to destroy the plotting and ambitions of Israel and its agents.

Al-Halabi concluded his statement by saying: It is always important to consolidate the legitimate authority's role in carrying out its duties in all parts of Lebanon. Relations between Syria and Lebanon are constantly developing. Our aims are clear as regards ourselves and our brothers in Lebanon. We proceed from the same starting points.

Al-Huss Leaves

JN181803 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1748 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 18 April--Lebanese Prime Minister Salim al-Huss left Damascus for Beirut this evening at the end of a 1-day visit to Syria.

During his visit Dr Huss held talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Syrian officials on developments in Lebanon, especially the situation in southern Lebanon, following the Lebanese Government's decision to send a Lebanese Army battalion to the south.

DAMASCUS RADIO COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON

JN182052 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] When the enemy focused on southern Lebanon as the place to carry out his aggressive expansionist ambitions and to achieve his strategy in the Arab-Israeli conflict by means of attacking the Arab chain at its weakest links, he proceeded from clearly defined objectives aimed at creating a new phenomenon consolidating the so-called good fence. This creates a new situation that achieves peace in Israeli style and gives new impetus to the As-Sadat march of capitulation. These objectives also aim at establishing a solid basis for achieving the Zionist aims in the territory of the south and the Litani River.

The aims of the Zionist aggression in the south are summed up in the following points:

1. To keep Lebanon united but under the control of the militias, which cooperate with the enemy and achieve his purposes;
2. To proceed to a new phase with the aim of dividing Lebanon into weak sectarian entities that justify the continuation of the racist Zionist entity in our occupied territories;
3. To force the Palestinians out of Lebanon, or at least to weaken and neutralize them;
4. To serve U.S. interests in the area;
5. To further confirm and strengthen As-Sadat's position on the Arab level by weakening his opponents in the Arab world;
6. In light of the Syrian initiative in Lebanon, which came upon the request of hundreds of thousands of Lebanese, it has become a basic task of the Zionist enemy to force the Syrians out of Lebanon.

In order to accomplish these goals, the Zionist enemy began to supply the rightist militias with light and heavy weapons, as well as with political support. Then the enemy began to concentrate these militias in a border strip, thus forming a natural barrier between Israel and the Palestinians and rendering the militias a tool in his hands. Therefore, upon President al-Asad's instructions, Syria adopted a counter-strategy to abort the enemy's strategy and to safeguard Lebanon.

The Syrian strategy aims at achieving the following:

1. To save Lebanon from fratricide and to stop the bloodshed that spread widely during the regrettable incidents;
2. To safeguard and preserve Lebanon's unity, sovereignty and independence and to create a suitable atmosphere for an objective and constructive dialog with the aim of rebuilding the new Arab Lebanon, so that Lebanon can resume its pioneering Arab role, far from the atmosphere of division and partition;
3. To preserve the Palestinian resistance and to abort all plots aimed at liquidating it and turning it into a mere faction in the Lebanese arena, in order to distract its attention from its basic mission of liberating the land and regaining Palestinian rights.

Syria has succeeded in its mission, having gained the Lebanese masses' support, except for a handful who have given themselves fully to the Zionist enemy and have agreed to become a tool in the enemy's hands.

When the Zionist enemy and his aides in Lebanon realized that Lebanon had begun to recover as a result of the Syrian initiative and is nearly ready to resume its role, work began aimed at aborting the new phase in Lebanon, either by using the militias or traitor Sa'd Haddad. The emphasis of this enemy activity has been on preventing the Lebanese Army from assuming its role and on forcing the Lebanese Army battalion to stop in Kawkaba, unable to continue its deployment in the south.

Today, the Lebanese Army is again trying to assume its role by deploying in the south, in order to achieve the following:

1. To revive the civil administration in the areas under UN forces' control;
2. To secure a Lebanese military presence in the south;
3. To widen the UN forces' deployment;
4. To prevent armed elements from entering UN forces [as heard] and to spread an atmosphere of peace.

It is natural, then, that all these steps aim at extending Lebanese sovereignty in the south. However, this sovereignty will be incomplete unless the two following objectives are fulfilled:

1. That the army's deployment in the south include the border strip, consequently closing the fence to Israel;
2. That a clear stand be taken toward traitor Sa'd Haddad.

The Lebanese masses consider the accomplishment of these two objectives to be the proper method to extend Lebanese sovereignty in the south, as a prelude to extending the state's sovereignty over all Lebanon.

The hope is that the Lebanese authorities have already taken decisive action, depending on the Lebanese masses' support and on the Arab powers--mainly the Syrian Arab Republic--and that the Lebanese authorities have begun the march of restoring normal life to Lebanon. We will make sure of exactly that during Dr Salim al-Huss' talks in Damascus today.

PAPERS CONDEMN HADDAD'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

JN190859 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] The commentaries of today's papers deal with an important development that has threatened the very unity, safety and security of Lebanon, namely, the declaration by agent Sa'd Haddad of the secession of the area under his control and its annexation to Israel.

Under the headline "In Lebanon Bets Are Misplaced and the Arabs Will Win," the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says: The plot continues to be implemented and the intensity of the onslaught against the Arab nation is being escalated. The methods and tactics of the implementation of the plot are becoming diversified, particularly now that the Arabs have foiled the U.S.-Zionist betting and upset the calculations of the sides involved in the plot.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: The onslaught against the Arab nation began with intimidation and with hints that the Arab oil sources would be occupied on the pretext of protecting them. This was intended to be pressure to change or modify certain stands or at least to neutralize them in the current confrontation. The United States in particular took the initiative in this campaign of pressure and intimidation because of its influence and power. When it failed, it resorted to the tactics of temptation, but reaped the same results because it did not take into consideration that any bets placed on affecting the Arab stand are bound to fail when pan-Arab and fateful issues are involved.

ATH-THAWRAH continues: The sides involved in the plot realize that Arab commitment and steadfastness is the main cohesive point for the Arabs. Syria's stands, policy and initiatives on all levels provide this main cohesive point for the Arabs. When the legitimate Lebanese forces entered southern Lebanon, agent Sa'd Haddad announced the secession of the area under Israel's control in southern Lebanon and began to shell the unified Army of Lebanon with weapons from Israel. The playing of the southern Lebanon card by the sides involved in the plot was by no means unexpected. The aim of playing the southern Lebanon card has always been to apply pressure on Syria in a coordinated way so as to serve the objective of implementing a bigger plot.

ATH-THAWRAH asks: However, will the plans and designs of the enemies of the Arab nation succeed?

Discussing the stands of agent Sa'd Haddad, ATH-THAWRAH says: Agent Sa'd Haddad is nothing more than a stooge for Israel. When agent Sa'd Haddad speaks and acts, he does so with the objectives of Israel in mind and on the orders of the Israeli enemy. Consequently, he has been identified as a traitor of the Lebanese people and the Arab nation. Therefore, any measures he takes or stands he adopts must be viewed and dealt with on that basis. Agent Sa'd Haddad chose the day the legitimate Lebanese forces entered southern Lebanon to declare the secession of the area under the control of his clique. This was done to protect the Israeli enemy and was expected. The primary task of the legitimate Lebanese forces now is to stop the traitors and the outlaws who are dealing with the enemy and to bring them to court for trial on charges of high treason.

Concluding its commentary, ATH-THAWRAH says: The calculations of the sides involved in the plot will also fail this time. The free Arab will is determined to regain the initiative and to continue building intrinsic Arab power, and will succeed in achieving national goals. Arab Syria, with its pan-Arab commitment, the cohesion of its people, and the wise and courageous leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, will remain the major base of steadfastness and confrontation. Arab Syria will continue to support the legitimate authorities in Lebanon and to protect Lebanon's unity, people and territorial integrity.

Discussing the treasonous treaty between As-Sadat and the Zionist enemy and the long-term objectives of U.S. imperialism behind this, the newspaper TISHRIN says: Anyone who believes that the United States will be content only with prompting Begin and As-Sadat to sign the treaty is mistaken.

The United States knows that As-Sadat's regime is isolated, staggering and on the verge of collapse. The United States also knows that the resistance put up by Syria and the Arabs has made the dream of linking the Arabs and Israel with an alliance dedicated to the service of imperialism is impossible to achieve. Therefore, it is natural for the United States and Israel to remain on the offensive because this is the best defense.

Washington has escalated this policy since the victory of the Iranian revolution. The signs of the U.S. offensive are: hints about the use of arms as demonstrated by the case of the Indian Ocean and the waters close to the Arab shores; pressure and intimidation against certain Arab capitals; false promises and tempting of other Arab capitals; preoccupying public opinion with peripheral issues and with issues of detail rather than substance; creating domestic disputes; creating potentially explosive situations; prompting Israel to make threats against certain Arab sides; and preoccupying Syria and the other genuine forces of steadfastness with problems such as Lebanon.

A prominent example of all this is the attempt to preoccupy Egyptian public opinion with the sham referendum which As-Sadat will hold today in the aftermath of acts of terror, repression, the suppression of liberties, and the unfair and arbitrary laws he is applying to the people. A good example of creating explosive situations and fabricating peripheral problems is prompting agent Sa'd Haddad to declare the so-called state of Free Lebanon with the aim of poisoning the atmosphere in Lebanon, preoccupying the Arabs with peripheral problems, imposing Israeli tutelage on an important part of Lebanon, and fabricating an issue to preoccupy Syria and the Arabs and divert their attention from the main battle against the plot and the treaty. However, the seditious plot in Lebanon failed to stop Syria's resistance to the ill-omened Sinai agreement. In the same way, the new U.S.-Israeli onslaught will fail to weaken the Arab resistance to the conspiratorial treaty and the As-Sadat regime which is on the verge of its inevitable collapse.

Sa'd Haddad's state is actually no more than a part of the dangerous U.S.-Israeli game directed against Lebanon's sovereignty, independence and the unity of its people. It is an overt and dirty attempt to provoke sectarian conflict to spread division among the Arabs. The United States bears the responsibility for this action, which reveals the reality of its hostile intentions regarding Lebanon and the Arabs. The plot in Lebanon will fail just as As-Sadat's referendum will fail to falsify the will of the Egyptian people.

TITO MESSAGE TO AL-ASAD VOICES CONCERN OVER TREATY

JN182023 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] His excellency President Hafiz al-Asad has received a reply message from Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito in which the latter expresses deep concern because the separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel is an impediment to the genuine wishes for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, thus aggravating the situation in the area and alienating a just and lasting settlement.

President Tito said that what the Egyptian-Israeli treaty has ignored is exactly what should be achieved to reach such a solution, particularly since Israel's official interpretations of the treaty do not leave room for doubt in this regard. President Tito affirmed that this primarily includes Israel's total withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and commitment to recognition of the Palestinian people's national inalienable rights, including their right to return, self-determination and establishment of their independent state.

In his message, President Tito said that the UN resolutions and the stands of other major international organizations constitute the only realistic basis available to move toward a just and lasting settlement. This was clearly stipulated in the resolutions of the nonalined foreign ministers meeting in Belgrade last summer. He added that the Arab summit conference in Baghdad and the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference in Baghdad were two important and positive events aimed at strengthening Arab unity.

President Tito expressed his belief that the United Nations is the right place to seek a lasting and just solution. The role of the nonalined countries should be firm in this search.

President Tito affirmed that the Arab struggle to remove the effects of the Israeli aggression is a legitimate struggle. The Arab countries should not hold truce negotiations [yuhadin] with this aggression because this violates the principles of the UN Charter and international law.

Concluding his message, President Tito affirmed that Yugoslavia will continue its support for the Arab people's just struggle against aggression and occupation.

INFORMATION MINISTER RETURNS HOME FROM IRAN

JN181757 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1735 GMT 18 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 18 April--Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad returned to Damascus from Tehran this afternoon at the conclusion of a 3-day visit to Iran, during which he delivered a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Iranian national leader Ayatollah Khomeyni.

This morning Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad was received by Iranian Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan, with whom he discussed the relations between Syria and the Iranian Islamic Republic. During this meeting, Bazargan expressed the appreciation of the Iranian revolution and people for the stands taken by President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian Arab people in support of the Iranian revolution.

Bazargan also affirmed the eagerness of the Iranian revolution and people to establish the closest ties with Syria, in order to serve joint interests and bolster the cause of joint struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Bazargan wished victory for the Syrian people under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad in their honorable battle against the Zionist occupation. He said the Iranian revolution stands by the side of Syria's struggle and steadfastness.

The meeting was attended by Amir Entezam, deputy prime minister and official spokesman for the Iranian Government.

ALGERIA

TRADE MINISTER MEETS WITH GDR PLANNING COMMISSION OFFICIAL

LD180610 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 17 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Mr Abdelghani Okbi, Central Committee member of the party and minister of trade, has received Mr Albrecht, deputy chairman of the GDR State Planning Commission. The talk dealt with a review of the trade relations and cooperation between Algeria and the GDR. The two ministers also had an extensive exchange of opinions on the means of ensuring a constantly increasing and harmonious development of these relations in conformity with the potentialities of the two countries' economies.

BRIEFS

SOVIET DELEGATION--Algiers, 17 April (APS)--A delegation from the Soviet Agricultural Trade (?Ministry) has arrived on a visit to Algeria. The delegation yesterday visited the western industrial area (Arzew) where explanations on conveying [word indistinct] of oil and natural gas and their treatment were given by Algerian workers [words indistinct]. The delegation visited the refinery, the new harbour of Arzew and the natural gas liquification plant (LNG). At Bethiou next to Arzew, the Soviet representatives visited the 150 housing socialist village of "Cheria" which will be completed next June. The delegation said they were "impressed" by the progress Algeria is making in the industrial and agricultural fields. [Text] [Algiers APS in English 1525 GMT 17 Apr 79 LD]

CONTRACT WITH ROMANIA--A contract for the building of the (As-Sakia) dam in Mascara was signed today by the Hydraulics Projects Department, Sonagther, and the Romanian group (Mone-Energo). The dam will have a capacity of 100 million cubic meters and will irrigate the Bahra Plain. Romanian participation is mostly in the form of technical assistance, with Sonagther's participation equalling 55 percent. [Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD]

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI: PEOPLE'S AUTHORITY MUST NOT BE DISTORTED

LD181545 Tripoli JANA in English 1405 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Apr, JANA--Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great First of September Revolution, met the General People's Congress yesterday evening and stated that the Libyan Arab peoples in the Jamahiriyah have achieved the ultimate by way of people's congresses and committees.

He said that there was nothing beyond the people's authority except chaos, just as there is nothing beyond truth but darkness. Thus, one of the tasks of the revolution's forces is the protection of the people's authority which should not be at all passed over or distorted.

He added: "Even if the people's authority receives a setback it will continue to be the supreme representative for democracy, for which the people will struggle anew in order to consolidate it."

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi affirmed that any fault or weakness which may appear is in fact a failure on the part of the people and are implementing the theory upon which the people's authority has been based within the people's congresses and committees.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi addressed the General People's Committees and said: "You remain the first to be established by the people's authority. Hence, you should appreciate the historic responsibility with which you have been entrusted, not merely in Libya but before all people, because your failure will encourage the perpetuation of the dictatorial regimes. Your success will speed up the eradication of all forms of traditional regimes.

"The final form of the people's power has been achieved now. It is the great target for which people have died every day to depose rulers, individuals, parties and certain classes in their age-long contest for power. The time is opportune now for the people to occupy those seats of power." He further pointed out the importance of preserving and not dissipating this great achievement because "we estimate highly the victory of the people's power which is the theory of tomorrow."

The leader of the revolution then talked about the tasks of the revolutionary committees and pointed out that they are an integral part of the theory and any objection to them would in fact mean an objection to the theory and revolution themselves. The task of the revolutionary committees, he said, is to help the people's committees reach their objectives and guide the people's congresses and committees to make sound decisions.

The people's committees exercise authority, he continued, while the revolutionary committees exercise revolutionary control.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also talked about the duties of those working in the administrative systems. He stressed the need for everyone to devote efforts and time to carry out this assigned job efficiently and successfully. For any shortcoming is treason to be punished on earth and evil to be accounted for in the final day of reckoning because it kills freedom, destroys the people's authority, obstructs the process of progress and delays production.

The leader of the revolution affirmed the necessity to continue the process of transformation which should be democratic involving all the masses in order to achieve the progress for which the greatest sacrifices should be made.

On the administrative system, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi called for making it sound, correct, active and with the minimum staff since the greater the number, the greater the dependence and the less the responsibility which would render the system unproductive and ineffective. And therefore all frozen untapped resources should be transferred to production sites to make nearer the victory over backwardness.

LIBYAN EMBASSY DENIES 'FREE OFFICERS' COMMUNIQUE

LD172051 Rabat MAP in English 1207 GMT 17 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, April 17, (MAP)--The Libyan Embassy here denied the information reported by some dailies and press agencies on the existence of a communique issued by the so-called "Free Officers," or "Libyan Opposition."

In a communique, the Libyan Embassy indicated that, "at a time when the Arab nation is firmly leading a struggle against Zionist plots and international imperialism, some Arab and Western information means try to undertake a campaign of lies and falsifications against Libya and the Arab masses. All this, in conformity with a plan aiming to make trouble and to cast a slur on the dignity of the Arab armed forces, and of the Arab citizen." [sentence as received]

MOROCCO

AFRIQUE-ASIE REPORT ON ABORTED COUP CITED

LD181244 Algiers APS in English 1030 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 18 April (APS)--Nineteen Moroccan officers who had been reported as missing from their units have in fact been executed on King Hassan II's order after a coup attempt, the semi-monthly AFRIQUE-ASIE reported in its last issue.

The magazine added that the officers had a double objective: overthrow the monarchy in the country and return the shah--then in Morocco--to the Iranian revolution.

AFRIQUE-ASIE comments on the attempt saying that once again the "baraka" (chance) has saved Hassan II but more significantly, the vigilance of secret services from countries for which--after the shah's collapse--it is neither opportune nor desirable to lose another imperialist agent in the Mediterranean and Africa.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF AS-SADAT'S INITIATIVE DENIED

LD182300 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The Israeli prime minister has been quoted as saying in one of his recent statements that the visit which President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat paid to Jerusalem was preceded by a meeting between the Israeli foreign minister and the Egyptian First Deputy Prime Minister Hasan at-Tuhami and that preparations for that visit took place in Morocco.

Authoritative Moroccan sources close to the royal palace categorically denied these allegations and affirmed once more that the Egyptian president did not disclose his intention to go to occupied Jerusalem to his majesty the king. President Anwar as-Sadat's initiative was a complete surprise as far as his majesty was concerned, particularly since prior to the visit the conversation between his majesty and the Egyptian president was only about the Geneva conference, which at that time was the only appropriate framework for peace negotiations in the Middle East. Finally, the Moroccan sources pointed out that Mr Anwar as-Sadat himself had frequently and publicly stated that his initiative was purely a personal one and that he did not inform any Arab head of state about it in advance.

KING HASSAN RECEIVES SOVIET AMBASSADOR NERSESOV

LD182312 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] At noon today His Majesty King Hassan II received at the Royal Court Yevgeniy Nersesov, Soviet ambassador in Rabat.

LEBANESE ARMY POSITIONS UNITS IN UNIFIL AREA

TA181412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 18 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The UN spokesman in southern Lebanon announced that the first group of 150 Lebanese soldiers arrived this morning at 0800 in seven vehicles at the UNIFIL operations area. The Lebanese were divided into five platoons and each one of them was stationed in the headquarters of one of the five battalions constituting UNIFIL: those of Senegal, Fiji, the Netherlands, Nigeria and Ireland. In the meantime, the rest of the Lebanese force also reached its destination, the UNIFIL spokesman reports. It was stated that militia forces in the village of An-Naqurah fired several bursts from machineguns into the UNIFIL headquarters yard. UNIFIL forces replied with one burst. Toward 1100, the UNIFIL spokesman's report says, the militiamen were seen placing explosives at the entrance of the Norwegian battalion's helicopter branch in An-Naqurah. UNIFIL men fired into the air and the militiamen retreated.

HADDAD CLAIMS ONE CASUALTY IN CLASH WITH UN

TA181814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Apr 79 TA

[Text] According to the commander of the Christian militias, Maj Sa'd Haddad, one of his men was killed in a clash with members of the UN force. In the exchange of fire with the terrorists, about 40 militia fighters were killed and seven were hospitalized in Israel.

Correspondents in southern Lebanon report that the militiamen launched a heavy burst of fire on the line of the regular Lebanese battalion's vehicles when they arrived this morning in the UN-controlled area. According to the correspondents, three local inhabitants were killed during that burst of fire and twelve were wounded.

SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON REPORTED CALM 19 APR

TA190817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Major Sa'd Haddad, the commander of the militias in southern Lebanon, is acting to calm the region after the battle that took place yesterday between his soldiers and the UN soldiers stationed in An-Naqurah. Our correspondent Yehezq'el Hame'iri reports that in the exchange of fire seven UN soldiers were wounded, one of them severely. The UN headquarters offices and the adjacent village of An-Naqurah were damaged. According to the Christian militiamen's claim, it is the terrorists that attacked the UN base. The UN soldiers then shot in the direction of An-Naqurah on the assumption that the fire came from there. As a result of this, the Christians returned the fire. The exchange of fire continued alternately for several hours and the UN spokesman later said that this shelling was one of the severest ever experienced by the UN force.

Quiet now prevails in the enclave. However, the alert among the militia ranks continues and this morning Lebanese workers did not come to work in Israel.

REACTION TO HADDAD'S DECLARATION OF FREE LEBANON

TA182019 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 18 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Political circles in Jerusalem reacted today to Maj Sa'd Haddad's proclamation that he has established an entity of self-rule called Free Lebanon in southern Lebanon, by saying that Israel has never made decisions for the Lebanese.

Indeed, Israel has sometimes in the past taken upon itself to guard the safety and well-being of the inhabitants of southern Lebanon and to prevent their annihilation, and that is why it is extending aid to them. However, Jerusalem circles emphasized that Israel has not intervened and neither will it intervene in the events in the area beyond this.

19 Apr Press Reaction

TA190926 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] Southern Lebanon and the recent terrorist acts are the major subjects dealt with in the editorials.

The Jerusalem POST says that contradictory interests are at play in southern Lebanon and Israel finds itself caught in their midst. For several years it has supported the Christians and Shi'ites in the area in their struggle against the PLO terrorists. Israel does not want any Syrian presence south of the Litani. Israel, however has no interest in preventing the restoration of the sovereignty of a legitimate Lebanese Government to the entire country. If sending the symbolic Lebanese force to southern Lebanon is a first step in this direction and UNIFIL continues to fulfil its duties in the region, the present crisis will pass. Nevertheless, then too the basic problem will not be solved. It will be solved when it is proved in practice that the Lebanese Government serves the interests of Lebanon and not of the PLO or Syria which reigns supreme in Beirut.

DAVAR notes that Israel's agreement to the movement of a Lebanese force south of the Litani, even if it does not enter the Christian enclaves, was accompanied by renewed Israeli clarification to the effect that Israel wants an enlarged and sovereign Lebanon and would like to see its elected president capable of maintaining this sovereignty throughout the territory of the country. This obviously runs contrary to Major Haddad's unilateral declaration. From a certain point of view the present situation is indeed one of a Christian independent rule. However, there is a great difference between this situation and a de jure declaration of an independent rule. Israel cannot be responsible for Major Haddad's every decision and it must not support this declaration. This must not be done even if a self-rule were not such a sensitive issue on other fronts from Israel's point of view. The situation in Lebanon is very complex indeed but the Israeli Government cannot support one thing and its opposite at the very same time.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that it is doubtful whether one can treat seriously the declaration of self-rule in southern Lebanon. This declaration should rather be viewed as a sort of warning against the entry of the Beirut force into the southern Lebanese enclaves. It is to be assumed that Israel agreed to the presence of the Beirut battalion near the area controlled by the United Nations. This arrangement can serve as an honorable way out for the Beirut government. However, Major Haddad's declarations regarding the self-rule surely polarize the relations between Christians and Lebanon and the central government whose existence in Beirut is doubtful.

OMER believes that the independent existence of the Christian enclaves must not be jeopardized. The Christians on the Israeli border are the only element in our region that has chosen Israel as an ally and an ally must not be disappointed especially when its situation is difficult.

U.S. DELEGATION DELIVERS AS-SADAT MESSAGE TO BEGIN

TA190910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Senator Ribicoff, who arrived in Israel from Cairo this morning, has brought a special message from President as-Sadat to Prime Minister Begin. The senator told our correspondent at the airport that this is a most secret message and he will immediately hand it to Mr Begin.

Senator Ribicoff arrived from Cairo as a member of a businessmen's delegation. This delegation is headed by Robert Strauss, a special envoy of President Carter. The delegation is examining possibilities of U.S. investments both in Egypt and in Israel.

Mr Strauss said upon his arrival that President Carter believes that economic progress in the region is vital in continuing the peace initiative. It is also important to know, he said, that the United States can bring not only military equipment but also economic aid to the Middle East.

MINISTERS REACT TO U.S. AMBASSADOR'S INTERVIEW

TA181955 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Cabinet ministers reacted strongly today to what can be interpreted as a strong accusation made by U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis against the director general of the prime minister's office.

In interviews published in the holiday eve newspapers, Ambassador Lewis says that Mr Begin was influenced by a conversation had with the director general, Dr Ben-Elisar, at Camp David, a conversation whose contents were not reported to the authorities precisely. Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports that government reaction on this issue can be expected tomorrow.

MODA'I, HILAL INTERVIEWED DURING SINAI OIL MEETING

TA182023 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Apr 79 TA

[Report on Israeli and Egyptian energy ministers remarks in Sinai after 17 April meeting; Moda'i remarks in Hebrew, questions directed to Hilal and Hilal's answers in English--videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Moda'i] The impression is that the Egyptians know where they are directing the issue--perhaps in some of its details in a direction not exactly the one I would like to direct it to--but the beginning was definitely positive. There is both personal and substantive understanding, at least in defining the issues which will be discussed and in the procedure we will follow: the establishment of a committee, the means of communication, the committee's timetable and all the things which are so essential when discussing an issue.

[Unidentified correspondent] Why has Egypt insisted so much that Israel will not continue to operate the fields under full Egyptian sovereignty?

[Hilal] First of all, they are Egyptian oilfields and we are going to apply the system on how to run Egyptian oilfields.

[Unidentified correspondent] Will you consider granting oil exploration rights to Israeli companies or employing Israel subcontractors in the oil industry in Egypt?

[Hilal] We feel really it is premature to discuss this. We say: When we normalize things, things become normal.

[Unidentified correspondent] Do you regard the oil as a political weapon, and if so, what circumstances do you think might prompt Egypt to cut off the supply to Israel?

[Hilal] Egypt does not supply oil to Israel now, but in the future we [word indistinct] supply. If you really examine our record in the whole world, you find that when we make a contract and when we promise, we fulfill that promise.

Further Comment

TA190653 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0503 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has said that he is convinced Egypt will supply oil to Israel in 7 months time, upon the handover of the 'Alma oilfield to Egypt. He disclosed that despite the progress made in his talks with the Egyptian petroleum minister, there are still differences of opinion regarding several issues. Israel is preparing a document of proposals concerning the supply of Egyptian oil and the value of the production equipment in the 'Alma field. About a week after the document is handed to Egypt, a joint Egyptian-Israeli experts committee will apparently meet in Tel Aviv. Our correspondent for economic affairs Yosi Melman reports on the talks held on the holiday evening in southern Sinai and their results. [Begin recording]

[Melman] Egypt will fulfill all its commitments as they are phrased in the peace treaty with Israel, Egyptian Petroleum Minister Dr Hilal told correspondents at the end of his meeting in Abu Rudays and At-Tur with Israel's energy minister. In other words, I asked the visiting minister, will Egypt supply oil to Israel in 7 months time, when the 'Alma field is handed over to you? Here is Dr Hilal's answer:

[Hilal--in English] After 9 months normalization will be discussed. Oil is part of the normalization procedure.

[Melman] The peace treaty states that after 9 months the parties will discuss the normalization of relations between the two countries. Oil, Dr Hilal stressed, is part of the process of normalization. However, what about the commitment to supply oil to Israel after 7 months?--I asked again. The answer of the Egyptian petroleum minister was that we do not know yet; but it is not a problem, really, it is not a problem. Following is the reaction of Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i to the remarks of his Egyptian colleague.

[Moda'i] Yes, this is true, Minister Hilal evaded a reply and Minister Moda'i will also evade answering. I can only say that we have a full understanding on this subject and it is not in Israel's disfavor.

[Melman] Moda'i noted that there is agreement and understanding between Israel and Egypt regarding most of the problems connected with the oil problem. However, he did not hide the disagreements, especially concerning the production equipment. It became clear that according to the peace treaty the immobile equipment will remain in place in the field while the future of the portable equipment will be decided in negotiations, that is, whether it will be sold to Egypt or not, and at what price. At the moment there are differences of opinion with regard to the definition of portable and immobile equipment.

It is clear that Egypt wants most of the maritime production equipment to be defined as immobile, thus it will pay less money for the equipment it will buy from Israel. These problems and others will be discussed in a joint experts committee headed by the directors general of the national oil companies of the two countries. The committee will convene shortly in Tel Aviv for its first meeting. [end recording]

DAYAN SPEAKS ON AUTONOMY ISSUE AT OR HANER

TA190746 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0503 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan yesterday appeared before members of kibbutzim in the south. In kibbutz Or Haner Mr Dayan answered members questions regarding the negotiations on the future of autonomy in the territories, the future of the Israeli settlements there and the role David Ben-Gurion played in the establishment of the state. Following the recent debate on this our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer sums up the main points of Foreign Minister Dayan's remarks:

[Begin recording] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan believes that if he headed the ministerial team conducting the negotiations on introducing the autonomy regime in the territories, he would have been able to lead the negotiations to a positive conclusion without harming Israel's interests. Mr Dayan made this statement answering a question as to whether he believes that the present government, with its present composition, can reach a positive conclusion in the negotiations on autonomy within a year. The foreign minister noted that, in any event, the opposition attacking the autonomy idea certainly could not reach a positive conclusion.

Regarding the government, he could not say for certain how the government can progress in the negotiations, but he, as mentioned above, could lead the negotiations to a conclusion within a year. The foreign minister harshly attacked his previous colleagues, the Alinement heads. I was enraged, he said, when I was in the Jordan Valley and heard from the settlers questions that indicate that they may find themselves in the territory of a Palestinian state. The heads of the Alinement said this to them. Instead of coming to these people, encouraging them and making clear to them that a general, opposition and coalition, agreement exists regarding the vitality of their presence there, the Alinement leaders came, discouraged them and sowed despair among them. I am not afraid, Dayan added, that the United States or the Arabs will bring about the removal of the settlements from the Jordan Valley, but Israeli leaders coming to sow despair among the settlers may bring about the liquidation of the settlements, thus leading perhaps to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Asked whether it was possible to reach an agreement in Judaea, Samaria and the Jordan Valley on the basis of the Allon plan of territorial compromise, the foreign minister disclosed details about the talks held on this issue with King Husayn at the time of the late Mrs Meir's government. At the time, he said, he participated in a meeting together with Golda and with a Jordanian personality whose identity could easily be guessed. At that meeting Prime Minister Meir raised the proposal for a territorial compromise before King Husayn. Husayn answered: This is totally out of the question.

Further Details

TA190832 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2340 GMT 18 Apr 79 TA

[Excerpts] Or Haner, 18 April--The foreign minister extensively analyzed the essence of the peace treaty with Egypt and the autonomy plan. Regarding peace with Egypt Dayan said that "the leaders could not master the courage to raise their hands against the hand extended for true peace from Egypt."

According to him, As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and the fact that all the contacts were held in public and not covertly as before--in addition to President Carter's opposition to interim agreements coupled with his support for the achievement of a full peace--all this led to the present leadership acceptance of the plan, as it was proposed, with a heavy heart. However, Dayan remarked, it is the first time that we have seen what the late Ben-Gurion termed "true peace without tricks."

The foreign minister emphasized again that all possible efforts were made to hold on to the Sinai settlements, but this was firmly rejected by As-Sadat. Nevertheless, Dayan rejected the claim that it was only Israel who made concessions in the course of the negotiations. "As-Sadat had to climb down from a very high tree by the time the peace treaty was signed," he said, adding that even after the Peres-As-Sadat meeting in Salzburg, before the Leeds meeting last summer, the Egyptian president still demanded a withdrawal from all territories and the establishment of self-administration as a way toward a Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. At that time he also demanded the removal of all settlements beyond the green line.

Referring to the autonomy plan the foreign minister rejected all attacks on the plan, contending that in the Camp David agreements Jerusalem is not mentioned at all, nor is the issue of the Palestinian state mentioned. The issue in question is a temporary agreement for 5 years from the day it becomes valid, namely for approximately 6 years. Only later may the negotiations on a final agreement and final borders begin, and then too, only with countries (namely, with Jordan) and not with representatives of Gaza or Nabulus. The IDF will remain the only army in the entire autonomy area and the settlements in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip are not a subject for discussion. Their link to Israel will be like that of Nahalal or Daganya, the foreign minister stressed. These settlements will not be dependent on the autonomy which grants the residents self-administration and grants both Israel and Jordan open borders.

Mr Dayan expressed his view that after the signing of the peace treaty we are to expect a hard period of translating its clauses into reality. "In the coming 3 years we will be able to see how peace actually functions. We are entering a period of tremors both in Israeli domestic policy and in the Arab world," he noted. He called on the people to give the present government a chance for at least a year to conduct the negotiations on autonomy. Menahem Begin is the first leader--not the late Golda Meir, nor Yitzhaq Rabin or any other leader--to propose the autonomy plan."

Mr Dayan emphasized that he supports settlement not only in the Jordan Valley and not for emotional motives but because of the security aspect of the State of Israel.

Answering a different question, the foreign minister expressed his hope that the hundreds of thousands in the Gaza Strip will ultimately receive Jordanian citizenship and, if the State of Israel, together with other elements, finds a solution also to the housing problem, then the problem of the regional refugees, which means absence of citizenship and of housing, will at last be solved.

EGYPTIAN SOUTHERN SINAI GOVERNOR ON AT-TUR PLANS

TA191013 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Apr 79 p s TA

[By Mikha'el Gerti]

[Text] Egypt will rehabilitate and populate the town of At-Tur, along the Suez Gulf, with the aim of turning it into the chief oil town in the area, the Egyptian governor of southern Sinai, who joined the Egyptian delegation which toured At-Tur and the 'Alma oilfield on the eve of the holiday, said.

Mr (Wahaba) clarified in an interview with the HA'ARETZ correspondent that the plans for the town's rehabilitation include building schools, public buildings and housing projects. These plans are now being worked out in view of the fact that the At-Tur area will be returned to Egypt in about 7 months.

The southern Sinai governor talked about agricultural experiments being conducted in Egypt now, in an area with climate and soil conditions similar to those in At-Tur. He claims that good results were obtained in those experiments and it was proven that the area is suitable for agriculture--mainly potatoes, tomatoes and fruit groves.

Replying to the HA'ARETZ correspondent's question, Mr (Wahaba) dismissed the problem of water in the area and claimed that there would not be any special problems in diverting Nile water to the area in order to advance the local agriculture.

OFIRA RESIDENTS DEMAND VOICE IN EVACUATION PROCEDURES

TA190930 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The Ofira residents invited the prime minister to visit the area. The residents committee says that after his visit in Ismailia Mr Begin promised to come to Ofira, but he has not done so to date. The committee also demanded that the prime minister's office director general, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, report to it immediately the conclusions and decisions of the Directors General Committee he heads so that the Ofira residents would be able to participate in determining their destiny. The committee claims that the Directors General Committee intends to confront the settlers with faits accomplis and determine criteria for their evacuation from Ofira without consulting them.

KHOMEYNI ADDRESSES EDUCATORS, WARNS OF SUPERPOWERS

LD182216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Speech by Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeyni at reception for educators from Rafsanjan in Qom on 18 April--recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate; it is a fact which has to be admitted that there was a fortified castle, the conquest of which no one thought possible, which was conquered. It was an awesome bastion, whose fall no one thought possible, but it fell. A nation which was unarmed, which had no weapons, shackled by the superpowers, triumphed over satanical superpowers which were armed to the teeth. But it was not they who (?achieved) this victory. It was blessed, Almighty God. [passage indistinct]

I realized while in France that the strength and unity of the Iranian people was brought about by a divine and mysterious hand. A man could not bring about such a unity. Men have a limited range of activity. They might be able to unite a city or even a province; they might succeed in teaching a group of people the definition of unity. But a country with a population of 35 million with diverse groups, with diverse hopes and aspirations, with its people's diverse roles and [word indistinct]--they all got together, joined hands and asked for one thing: (?that they be granted victory) by blessed, Almighty God and by the imam of the era, may God's peace be upon him. From that time onward I became hopeful of (?victory), that this issue would be crowned with victory. [passage indistinct] A nation which had nothing was confronted by a satanical force backed by the likes of the United States, Britain and also by the USSR. All the satanical forces had joined hands and confronted the few of this nation, who were backed, however, by the forces of merciful God; and blessed, Almighty God, would never allow them to be (?defeated). [passage indistinct]

Strive to keep this movement just as it is, to safeguard this movement along the same course. Should you wish Iran to remain independent and free, a country which stands on its own two feet and administers its own affairs; should you wish such a country [word indistinct] to carry its victory to the very last, you should safeguard this business of victory; and the issue of victory receives the attention of God.

People used to come to see me, young men in their prime who used to ask me in the name of God to pray for them so that they would be martyred. This was the favor of God. These plans were out of human hands. A spiritual metamorphosis took place in the nation; an inner transformation took place; and this inner transformation was done by the hand of God, by the grace of God. A nation which a little while before would allow a policeman to come along in the bazaar and demand to carry out an inspection or something else--and no one would have considered it his right to raise an objection--in no time at all became so strong that it poured out into the streets and shouted: Death to so and so. They paid no attention to cannons, tanks or machineguns. They paid no attention to the satanical forces. This transformation was a divine transformation. Act to preserve this transformation, so that what you have achieved and our nation has achieved may not be destroyed. Safeguard the unity of your words.

Strengthen your attention to God. Direct the (?government) and people toward God. Expel those from your midst who wish to sow discord. Either give them guidance if they respond or expel them.

The United States once again has its eyes on Iran, on Iran's oil, on Iran's reserves. It does not want to (?give up) so soon. (?The same goes for the others).

Should you wish to blind these same eyes and cut off these very hands you should, armed with the selfsame idea with which you have made progress so far, safeguard this mystery and this key. This mystery is heeding God; and the whole thing is but one, and that is Islam. The whole thing is but one; not polytheism, but Islam. Yes. Should this mystery--God forbid--be taken our of our hands, should these devils who are the agents of the United States and of other countries and who are among the people and committing provocations, who do not allow our agriculture to proceed, who do not allow our factories to begin operations, who do not allow our schools to open, should these people who are among you--God forbid--infiltrate your ranks and make you listen to their words, and should our young people become careless and pay attention to them and follow them and hold marches in the streets and stage demonstrations at a time when they should not hold demonstrations, should--God forbid--these active persons, who want to divert the people from the path of right inspired by Satan, succeed, I fear that the state of affairs would return to what it was in the past. I fear that repression would then once again be restored. I fear that the independence which we have achieved would be taken out of our hands.

Dear people, wake up; recognize these people who are scattered among various classes of the people. If these people are so sympathetic to the nation why do they not allow the nation to remain tranquil? Why did they try to prevent the referendum from taking place, a referendum on a national level? Why did they set fire to the ballot boxes? Why did they exhort the people to oppose the referendum? [passage indistinct] Why do they not allow agriculture to proceed and why do they go to the countryside and commit provocations and prevent things from proceeding? Why do they prevent Iranian factories from beginning to work? This is because if they were to start working tranquillity would prevail; and if there is tranquillity this will tie the hands of their masters. They want their hands free. They want to turn the country back to the old times, albeit in a different way--although the imperial system can no longer return--in other satanical forms.

Wake up; pay attention; let everyone wherever he may be pay attention and (?cleanse the land of such elements).

God willing, once the Islamic government has been stabilized we will all endeavor together to remove the shortcomings; and education tops all of them.

In former times they always tried to frighten us with their education, such that we were even afraid of ourselves and had no confidence in ourselves. If someone fell ill we used to say that he should go abroad, although we had doctors in the country. They said foreigners should run our army! Our oil should be run by foreigners, as they had the necessary experts! They brainwashed us. They robbed us of our self-confidence.

Brothers, bring up our young men armed with self-reliance, with independence of thought. Teachers, bring up our youth to be independent and free. Teach them self-reliance. We have everything. We had been in such a way that we thought we had nothing. You have seen how we have fought back, with empty fists, and in this we had the ability and have the power. We who used to fear a captain; used to fear a policeman; but you have seen how our children ignored cannons and tanks. We have power and we have God on our side. So long as there is reliance on God, so long as attention is paid to God, so long as this valiant spirit exists in you, you will triumph.

I beseech blessed, Almighty God to grant you all health, happiness and all the members of this nation; and I pray for and serve you all. And may peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

TEHRAN: HODDING CARTER REJECTS KHOMEYNI STATEMENT

LD182304 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2230 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] AP reports from Washington that the U.S. State Department on Wednesday rejected the accusation leveled by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, to the effect that satanical plans were being carried out by the United States and its agents in order to create unrest in Iran. Hodding Carter, spokesman of the U.S. State Department, told correspondents: I emphatically reject any statement to the effect that we have had a hand in the events in Iran. Carter said: Right from the beginning we clarified the point that we will never involve ourselves in such affairs and we are meticulously applying this policy and hope that others would do the same.

REVOLUTION COUNCIL URGES TALEQANI TO RETURN TO TEHRAN

LD181132 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by the Islamic Revolution Council of Iran:

In His Almighty name, the persistent struggles of His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani, as well as his high rank and position in the eyes of the leader of the Islamic revolution and the Iranian people, is clear to all. Our great nation has spared no efforts to express its appreciation for the hard struggles of this Islamic personality.

Following the self-willed and conspiratorial measure which is the type of measure that is usually taken by various groups, Ayatollah Taleqani left his residence in the hope that the opportunist groups and elements who are day and night conspiring against the Islamic revolution would be captured and interrogated by the oppressed people.

But his absence from Tehran further inflated the climate of conspiracy and provocation, and the same groups whose self-willed measures were objected to by his eminence, a small part of which consisted of arrests without warrants and intimidation of persons, adopted Taleqani's absence as a pretext for even greater provocations.

It is clear to all that these groups which have missed no opportunity for provocation from the moment the Islamic government was established have no other intention than to create disunity and weakness in the leadership of the Islamic revolution. They are trying to break the Islam front by striking at the (?source) of the revolution and putting the country at the mercy of their conspiracies. The nation must know that the Revolutionary Council will not remain indifferent to agitations, nor will it allow the agents of provocation and conspiracy to play with the country's destiny and thus pave the way for the return of a regime similar to the previous one.

Regarding the detention of Ayatollah Taleqani's child [as heard], it must be pointed out that the council ordered an investigation after it received the report on the incident, and it is now obvious that the official committees of the imam as well as the leadership of the Revolutionary Guards corps had no involvement in this matter, and all the branches of the Revolutionary Guards corps still have not been completely brought under the leadership of the Revolutionary Council. No doubt this great nation will not lose its revolutionary patience and will not give in to provocations and conspiracies, and there is no doubt that His Eminence Taleqani, who is aware of the possibility of exploitation of this incident by opportunists, and with his great attention to the sensitive position of the country, will not allow his absence from Tehran to continue; with his presence, it is hoped that the reality of the incidents will [word indistinct] to every one, and decisive measures will be taken to eliminate the grounds of provocation and conspiracy.

[Signed] Islamic Revolutionary Council of Iran.

TALEQANI URGES AVOIDANCE OF RADICALISM

LD181112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention. Since the tape which we have at our disposal is technically faulty, we will read a message from His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful: Brothers, sisters, children, students and other committed and responsible groups, the feelings that you have expressed for me in recent days demonstrate your sense of appreciation for the servants of Islam and the nation. You have (?indebted) me even more than this. I am grateful to you all.

With the help of God, I shall soon be among you, beloved ones. I therefore ask you to avoid demonstrations and marches on this day and afterwards. You, dear students, go to your classes, and all of you beware lest the opportunists and seditionists break the united ranks of the Islamic nation and the Iranian people and drag our genuine and lofty revolution toward the radical left and right.

After considering the current events and plots by conspirators, what ought to be said I shall discuss before His Eminence Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni and inform you. Now, more than anything else we need to think, study and analyze the situation and conditions of our time, and we ought to avoid radical actions.

Peace and the mercy of God be upon you.

[Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 0855 GMT on 18 April broadcasts a recording of Ayatollah Taleqani reading the above message, introduced by the announcer with the words: "Here is the message we have received from His Eminence the Ayatollah Taleqani."]

Taleqani's Offices To Reopen

LD190920 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by Mr Hoseyn Taleqani [Ayatollah Taleqani's son]:

While expressing thanks to the Muslim Iranian nation for its pure sentiments, this is to state that the offices of His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani will resume work in the usual manner with effect from today, Thursday, 19 April.

Taleqani Received by Khomeyni

LD190750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] After his arrival in Qom last night, His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani was received by Imam Khomeyni, with whom he held fruitful talks for 1 hour. At a meeting held at the residence of Hojjatoleslam Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, this morning, His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani received the exalted religious authorities, the ulema and the learned of the religious seminary of Qom, and held talks with them.

TEHRAN REPORTS ON 18 APRIL MARCH BY ISLAMIC ORGANIZATION

LD182240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2230 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS report, at an invitation from the organization of the Mujahidin Khalq of the Iranian Islamic revolution, some 500,000 members, supporters and groups affiliated with this organization held a march today as a means to strengthen Muslim unity and expose the plots of traitors.

During the march, which began from the Shemiran bend at 1530, the marchers carried portraits of the Imam Khomeyni and the Ayatollah Taleqani and slogans inscribed on strips of cloth, including: "The Government Should Move Behind the Imam" and "The Decisiveness Shown by the Islamic Revolutionary Courts Receives the Gratitude of the Islamic Nation." The marchers followed a course toward Tehran University. Along the route of their march they chanted slogans, including "The Need for Revolution Is the Result of Our Efforts and Endeavors"; "Khomeyni's Leadership Is the Basis of Our Unity"; "The Purging of the Committee Should Be Carried Out"; and "A Revolutionary Guard Should Remain Vigilant".

Our correspondent reports: The marchers--who throughout the course of their march were protected by armed guards--moved in organized and closed ranks. When they arrived opposite Tehran University they were welcomed with a recitation from the glorious Koran. Then 1 minute of silence was observed in tribute to the souls of the martyrs of Tehran University. Then an 11-point resolution, prepared especially for the occasion, was read and the participants, chanting "God is Great" approved the contents of the resolution.

At the end of the march a resolution from the Association of Iranian Islamic Teachers was also read.

According to PARS, the program of the march was worked out before the issuance of the message from His Eminence the Ayatollah Taleqani.

ARMY CHIEF DISCUSSES SUPPORT FOR REPUBLIC

LD171316 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The chief of the General Staff of the Iran Islamic Republic Army issued the following statement today:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful, the Iranian Army was in the past in the service of self-willed rulers and was a guardian of the throne and the altar because of its forced rupture from the people and the lack of ideological content. Now that, by the victory of the Islamic revolution of the oppressed people, in Islamic Republic is being established in our country, the army, like other sectors of the community, is also being reestablished on the basis of the life-giving school of Islam.

By adopting the name of Iran Islamic Republic Army, the army considers itself committed to the monotheist values of this school and regards its mission as safeguarding the achievements of the Islamic revolution and defending the Iranian Muslim versus the aggressors and satanic and antipeople forces, and regards the struggle culminating in martyrdom in pursuit of the true Islamic aspirations and adherence to 'Ali--peace be upon him--and the lesson of martyrdom of Hussein ibn 'Ali--peace be upon him--as the great success.

The transformation in the status of the army, which began with the end of the fallen imperial order in the form of joining the ranks of the people's struggle and resisting bloodthirsty rulers, was pursued by purging itself of antipeople elements. The greatest effort in the appointment of new commanders and senior officers was made so that the assignment of posts and positions is based only on competence and piety. For in our view, attaining rank and office is not a privilege but a heavy responsibility in the safeguarding and fulfillment of the popular mission of the army.

The future army of Iran, on the basis of the teaching of the glorious Koran, with firm order and discipline founded in faith and monotheist values and commitment to the leadership of the revolution, and with the organization of the highest level of force and most powerful means, will prevent the enemies of God and people from even considering an invasion of this country.

At this sensitive historical juncture when all the antipeople forces are intent upon crushing the Islamic revolution of Iran, and when Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution, has declared 18 April as Army Day, while deriving inspiration from his valuable guidance in strengthening the bases of discipline in order to create a powerful and secure army, the Iran Islamic Republic Army with the support of the Muslim nation expresses its full readiness for sacrifice in defending the borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran through holding the parade ceremony.

[Signed] The chief of General Staff of the Islamic Republic Army of Iran, Maj Gen Naser Farbod.

ENTEZAM: GOVERNMENT HAS NO OPTION BUT TO CONTINUE

LD191200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpts] With Cabinet approval, salaries of up to 30,000 rials a month will be tax exempt with effect from 21 April, both in the private as well as public sectors. Also, with the approval of the Economic Council, the import of any type of motor car has been banned for a 1-year period.

Mr Amir Entezam, the deputy prime minister and government spokesman, announcing this in his press briefing today, said: The Bank account No 89,000 opened at the central branch of Bank Melli for the people's aid to the government has been changed to 110 at the same bank branch. With regard to the issuing of treasury bonds, the government spokesman said the government is reviewing the matter.

Referring to the closure of the country's sea and land borders, which was raised at the previous press briefing, he said: I should add that the border with Turkey at Bazargan is open to commercial vehicles and that new regulations have been made governing the passage of trucks across this border. Under these regulations, those who use the outlet to help criminals leave the country will receive the maximum sentence in Islamic revolutionary courts.

Mr Amir Entezam, with regard to the previous statement concerning the arrest of the sons of Ayatollah Taleqani, said: None of the committees, particularly the imam's official committees, whose selfless and (?dedicated) services are praiseworthy, has had anything to do with the matter, and the revolutionary court has issued no particular instructions in this regard either. It was rather the guardians of the revolution who had arbitrarily got themselves involved in the incident, and it is hoped that, with the investigation and measures by the Council of the Revolution, the matter will be clarified and those responsible punished.

In reply to a question that it was reported that in Kordestan recently Mr Moftizadeh had gone to the organization of the Cherikha-ye Fada'i-ye Khalq along with a group of armed men, held a jihad prayer and gave them a deadline of 2 days to surrender their arms, the government spokesman said: The government has not yet received any report in this regard.

Referring to the U.S. forces in the Indian Ocean, the rumor of which has been whipped up by the Soviet Union, Amir Entezam said: Superpowers are sensitive to one another's activities, but there is nothing to worry about.

With regard to the degree of control exercised at home and abroad over the efforts made by individuals to bring the former regime back, the government spokesman said: Certain individuals have arrived in Iran, but the government is in hot pursuit, and their activities will be exposed soon.

Asked to comment on the rumor about the government's resignation, he said: This government will in no way resign; it is more appropriate to say that this government has no choice but to continue in office, and this is a great mission entrusted to the government, which is something that it must carry out. All one can say is that there might be certain individuals who would resign because of fatigue, heavy pressure of work or lack of opportunity.

Asked to which countries oil is exported at present, the government spokesman said: We cannot supply the names of these countries at the moment.

On Mr Sanjabi's resignation, the spokesman said: The government has no knowledge of the former foreign minister's dissatisfaction with the Iranian ambassador to the United States.

Regarding foreign workers in Iran, and truck drivers who are still working in Iran, he said: There are those whose place of work has not been closed, or those who work in places such as nuclear power stations, and those technicians the equivalent of which does not exist in the country yet. We have to use them. He added: With regard to the truck drivers, the government will study the matter so that more Iranian drivers can be used. He also said that Qasr prison will be handed over to the Department of Justice so that it may be transferred to a larger building. This will be done within a week or two.

With regard to the banning of foreign automobiles, he said: Efforts will be made so that automobile manufacturing factories in Iran are able to import fewer automotive parts and to manufacture more of these themselves. However, spare parts for foreign cars will continue to be imported into the country.

In conclusion, he added that the rumour that doctors are banned from leaving the country was baseless and that they could take a trip abroad just as other people can.

KHOMEYNI CABLES THANKS TO IRAQI PRESIDENT

LD182125 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] A telegram has been sent by His Great Eminence Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, in reply to the message of congratulations from the Iraqi president in connection with the setting-up of an Islamic Republic in Iran, as follows:

In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate; Your Excellency Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, president of Iraq: Your Excellency's cordial message pertaining to the setting-up of the Islamic Republic has reached us and has our gratitude.

The explosive movement in Iran as a result of the Pahlavi regime's dictatorship, repression and pressure has been a warning to all the arrogant [mustakbirin] from the weak and oppressed [mustad 'afin]. I hope that all governments treat their nations peacefully. The governments should be at the service of the nations; and the nations should support them so that we may all prosper. The outcome of repressions is explosion; and that is for the good neither of the nation nor of the governments.

May Almighty God grant success and happiness to all. Peace be upon you.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni.

SOVIET ENVOY DISCUSSES U.S. FORCES, MIDEAST

LD181256 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Yesterday the USSR ambassador to Iran met and held talks with Ahmad Salamatian, the Foreign Ministry political under secretary [acting foreign minister]. During the meeting which took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Soviet ambassador drew the attention of the Government of the Iranian Islamic Republic to the reinforcement of U.S. Armed Forces in the Indian Ocean, the dangerous consequences of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and of the two countries' military cooperation in the eastern Mediterranean.

The political under secretary, in reply, pointed out that the policy of the Government of the Iranian Islamic Republic vis-a-vis the Indian Ocean is based on a struggle against any interference in the region by foreign powers, and the belief that the Indian Ocean should be free of any form of political grouping and that it should be turned into a zone of peace and tranquility in which only the littoral and regional states should be responsible for its security.

As regards the Middle East issue, the Foreign Ministry political under secretary stressed that the position of the Government of the Iranian Islamic Republic is perfectly clear and is based on denouncing the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and on an awareness of the consequences and dangerous that this separate peace, lacking in regard for the demands of the Palestinian nation, has for the region.

SYRIAN INFORMATION MINISTER MEETS WITH SHARI'AT-MADARI

LD161844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The special representative of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has met and held talks with His Eminence Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari. The Syrian minister of information, who bears a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, was received by His Eminence Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari at noon today. During this meeting, the representative of President Hafiz al-Asad, while expressing congratulations for the establishment of the Islamic Republic on behalf of the Syrian Government and people, delivered to Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari the message of Hafiz al-Asad. In this meeting important talks were held regarding the freedom of Imam Musa Sadr. At the end of the meeting the special representative of the Syrian president invited His Eminence Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari to visit Syria, and this invitation was accepted by Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari.

The special representative of Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Tehran yesterday. Upon his arrival, in an interview with the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY he emphasized the strengthening of relations and brotherly foundations between the two nations of Iran and Syria and said: We view with high praise the support of Iran's revolution for the Palestine revolution.

TEHRAN: JAPAN CONCERNED ABOUT OIL COMPANY TAKEOVER

LD171336 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Japanese officials have expressed concern following the declaration of Iran's intention with regard to the possible 100 percent nationalization of Iran's petrochemical industries. Senior officials of the Japanese International Trade and Industry Ministry have pointed out that they intend to inquire, through the Japanese Embassy in Tehran, about the Iranian Government's intentions with regard to the Iranian-Japanese Petrochemical Company which belongs to the Mitsui group of companies. Rahim 'Abedi, the director general of the Iranian National Petrochemical Organization, in a radio interview yesterday expressed his dissatisfaction with the Iranian-Japanese Petrochemical Company, particularly with regard to the transfer of petrochemical technology to Iranian staff, and described what the Japanese are doing in this regard as inadequate.

SIT-IN IN ABADAN ENTERS 12TH DAY

LD191130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The sit-in staged by high school graduates of the city of Abadan entered its 12th day today. Seven of them, who were overcome by weakness as a result of their hunger strike, were transferred to the hospital last night. The prosecutor of the Abadan Revolutionary Court last night entered into negotiations with the youths, but the negotiations have so far failed.

Meanwhile, two representatives of the imam's committee in Tehran arrived in Abadan this morning to hold talks with these staging the sit-in.

NIOC Leader Discusses Problems

LD182218 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Mr Hasan Nazih, the board chairman and managing director of NIOC, this morning arrived in Abadan to investigate certain problems of oil industry workers. Following his arrival, Mr Nazih met and held separate talks with the representatives of the Abadan oil industry workers.

TRAINEE PILOTS PROTEST REDUNDANCIES

LD171232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Iran National Airlines Corporation trainee pilots continued their sit-in in one of the airlines offices at Takht-e Tavus Avenue again today. These trainees have staged their sit-in since last Saturday, 14 April for the implementation of their demands.

Representative of trainee pilots said: Before staging our sit-in here we held negotiations with those responsible in the organization but with no regard to the colossal amount owed to us. For a period of 9 months they declared us redundant merely by pleading lack of need, excessive staff and lack of funds. In conclusion, the trainee pilots stated their demands in a statement addressed to the prime minister.

'PSEUDOCLERGYMAN' EXECUTED IN HAMADAN

LD191204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic Revolutionary Court of Hamadan reports that Mr Ahmad 'Alemizadeh, the Hamadan pseudoclergyman, was found guilty of sowing corruption on earth. He was executed at 0100 this morning by firing squad for cooperating with SAVAK and providing dozens of reports on young people and the spiritual community.

ARREST OF SAVAK EMPLOYEES, DRUG ADDICTS REPORTED

LD141248 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The Chalus Islamic revolutionary committee's guards have arrested Capitain Rasekh, a local police officer, accused of taking part in the attack against the people's demonstrations and opening fire on demonstrators. Similarly, Rabi' Kord, a SAVAK official in (Husheh); Tafzali, a SAVAK employee entrusted with duties in Kelardasht; and Shalku'i, a SAVAK reporter in Bandar-e Anzali, have been recognized and arrested in Chalus. The Chalus revolutionary committee has also arrested four thieves and six drug addicts, apprehended while taking drugs. On the other hand, 'Ezzat Ebrahimzadeh, better known as 'Aziz, Babol's SAVAK reporter, has been arrested in one of the outlying districts in that provincial city. On announcing this report the Babol committee reported that 15 drug addicts from that city are receiving treatment in the jail of the Babol Police Department.

KERMAN COURT ACQUITS 2, SENTENCES 1 TO DEATH, 11 TO PRISON

LD180922 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic Revolutionary Court of Kerman held its fourth session at 1900 yesterday to consider the cases of 14 people accused of killing and participation in antirevolutionary activities in Doshan, an administrative locality of [name indistinct]. The court session began with a recitation of verses from the glorious Koran, followed by a hearing of the bills of indictment. Afterward each of the accused submitted his defense, and eyewitnesses also gave evidence. Later the public prosecutor of the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Kerman submitted his case, demanding that the accused person be punished according to Islamic law. This was followed by the final defense of the accused. At 2100 the court started its deliberations, and after 1 hour's deliberation it announced its decision as follows:

Ebrahim Qorbani, known as Namak 'Ali, convicted of murdering Seyyed Mahmud Seyyed Reza'i, a revolutionary struggler, was considered as having waged war on God and his prophet and was sentenced to death; Mohammad 'Abbasi was sentenced to 3 years' correctional imprisonment; Habibollah Nabizadeh to 10 years' imprisonment; Mohammad Sheykhzadeh to 3 years' imprisonment; 'Ali Qanbari to 3 years' imprisonment; 'Ali Pur-Raza'i, son of Mohammad, to 5 years' imprisonment; 'Abbas Esma'ili to 5 years' imprisonment; (Mota'ollah) Ahmadi to 3 years's imprisonment; Hoseyn Pur-Reza'i to 1 year's imprisonment; Mohammad Ahmadi-Nezhad, son of 'Ali, to 6 months' imprisonment; 'Ali Nur Mohammadi-Nezhad, son of Mohammad, was acquitted; Hoseyn Pur-Reza'i, son of Morad, was sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment; Mohammad Ahmadi, son of Hasan, was acquitted; Musa Mohammadi was sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment.

Ebrahim Qorbani, the first accused, was executed by firing squad at 2330 last night.

RETIRED GENERAL, FORMER POLICE CHIEFS SOUGHT BY PROSECUTOR

LD181330 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] A warning was issued today by the public prosecutor of the Islamic revolution in Rasht to retired Brig Gen 'Ali Seyyedi, former police chief of Gilan Province, and Col Hadi Faqih, former police chief of Rasht, giving them a 1-week deadline from today to give themselves up to the public prosecutor of the Islamic revolution in Rasht; otherwise legal measures will be taken against them.

FORMER POLICE CHIEF OF RAFSANJAN ARRESTED

LD181340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] According to our reporter from Kerman, the former police chief of Rafsanjan was arrested by the guardians in this city. The former police chief of Rafsanjan is accused of beating up and injuring and killing and crushing the people during the Islamic movement. The headquarters of the Islamic revolution of Rafsanjan has also requested that if the residents of the city have a complaint against this individual to hand it to the headquarters of the Islamic revolution of Rafsanjan.

ENTEZAM INTERVIEWED BY TURKISH JOURNALIST

NC180928 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 17 Apr 79 p 6 NC

[MILLIYET correspondent Orsan Oymen interview with Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Amir Entezam in Tehran--date not given]

[Text] [Question] Now that CENTO is dead, will the RCD [Organization for Regional Cooperation and Development] follow suit? Are you otherwise thinking of an expanded form of the RCD or the continuation of the organization as a tripartite entity comprising Turkey, Iran and Pakistan? Will this issue be discussed with Turkish Foreign Minister Gunduz Okcun?

[Answer] When we were discussing the issue of dissolving CENTO with Pakistani Foreign Minister [title as published] Agha Shahi, we demanded that cooperation be established among the countries of the region--including Turkey, Pakistan and Middle Eastern and gulf countries--to replace CENTO. As is known CENTO was largely based on military cooperation. However, we may propose trade, economic and cultural cooperation with these countries and we may succeed in establishing a cooperation which will replace CENTO. It has been decided to continue contacts with Pakistan on this issue, which will undoubtedly be discussed with Turkey as well. We will be very pleased to see an identity of views reached among Iran, Turkey, Pakistan and other countries of the region.

[Question] The issue of Islamic republics gained prominence after the Iranian revolution. For example, TIME magazine, in its last issue, appraised Islam as a third political force between Western capitalism and Eastern socialism. How do you assess this view? Do you believe that the Iranian revolution will have an impact on other Islamic countries?

[Answer] I would say yes without hesitation. Islamic ideology eliminates all difficulties suffered by the oppressed classes whose protection has been undertaken by communism. Communism advocates aid to the working and peasant classes and favors the just distribution of wealth among the classes constituting the society. Islam does this in the best manner and thus no need is felt for communism. The existence of a small group of capitalists and large classes of ppor people in need of development prepares the ground for communist propaganda. The environment created by Islam, on the other hand, provides opportunity neither for communism nor the formation of classes within the society. For this reason, I can say that all Islamic states around the world have a bright future. I believe that once Islamic laws are established in Iran certain Muslim countries will also turn to Islam. I believe that Islam will have a stronger influence in the future.

[Question] In Turkish your name means order and discipline. Can one talk about order and discipline in the way the Iranian revolution is being implemented in your country? What are the main difficulties you face in bringing order and discipline to the revolution?

[Answer] The most important problems the government faces today are economic. The government is working on this issue. Efforts are being made to reactivate the factories in various parts of the country and to step up production. The main problem we inherited from the past was the careless squandering of the national income with the result that billions of dollars flowed out of the country for needless and meaningless purposes. The Islamic state will spend its revenues in the country for its own future. I am hopeful that the economic difficulties will be overcome soon. Our second most important problem is the issue of security in the aftermath of the revolution. The fact that we assigned police and gendarmerie duties to revolutionary committees after the revolution became one of the problems. However, we will solve the security problem as soon as we form an army which will act in accordance with human objectives.

[Question] Does the government have any problems with the Kurds, the Turkmens or the ethnic communities in Baluchestan? What solution do you envisage for these problems?

[Answer] We do not consider the issues related to Kordestan and other regions of Iran to be a serious problem. Our Kurdish, Arab and Azerbaijani brothers demand certain things from the government. They want to participate in their own local administrations and to read and write in their own language. They also want their own language used in radio and television broadcasts. These are demands that the government does not oppose.

The new constitution will satisfy these demands and the measures will be implemented. Unfortunately, counterrevolutionaries--both from the right and the left--as well as sympathizers of the former regime wanted to exploit the demands of our Kurdish and Turkmen brothers in order to stain our revolution. As a result of this there were certain unpleasant incidents in these regions. However, at the moment the government is in control of events. I believe that all these incidents will be eliminated as soon as the new constitution goes into effect.

[Question] Do you think that provocative acts and pressures from foreign imperialist forces are involved in the issue of Kordestan and other ethnic groups?

[Answer] I cannot say anything for sure. However, certain Western countries as well as states which are not pleased with the Iranian revolution are involved in behind-the-scenes activities; some of them are supporting the counterrevolutionary forces.

[Question] What do you think about the friction between Ayatollah Khomeyni and the Ayatollah Taleqani, whose sons were kidnaped recently?

[Answer] No, there is no difference of views whatsoever between Khomeyni and Taleqani. Certain irresponsible people from the revolutionary committees and the defenders of the revolution have caused these said incidents.

[Question] Will the constitution give the religious leader a sort of veto in the democratic system, particularly over legislation passed by the parliament?

[Answer] I cannot say anything about the constitution, which has not been finalized yet. However, as far as I know all citizens will have a right to vote and stand as candidates in the next elections. Of those who took part in the recent referendum, 99.5 percent voted in favor of an Islamic republic and thus decided that the Iranian State must be an Islamic republic and that it must be administered in accordance with Islamic ideology.

[Question] Will assembly seats be allocated to Kurds, Turkmens, Baluchis and other ethnic groups?

[Answer] People in all parts of the country have an indisputable right to elect and be elected. As I said before, there are no divisions of Kurds, Turkmens, Baluchis, etc. When the new constitution is made public we will see what provisions it will have on this issue; then we will be able to express our views.

[Question] Does the cooperation between SAVAK and the CIA have any influence on events?

[Answer] You know that the operations of SAVAK have been terminated. However, the remnants of this organization are causing certain incidents, though these incidents are far from being organized. For the moment I have no proof that these individual acts are connected with the CIA.

NVOI SCORES U.S. MILITARY ENCROACHMENTS IN PERSIAN GULF

TA182230 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 2100 GMT 9 Apr 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The so-called treaty which Egypt and Israel signed under pressure from Washington, actually turned Israel into a military base in the Near East. This treaty will enable the Pentagon to bring two military bases under its supervision.

The 6th Fleet [words indistinct] in Alexandria, and we learn from the newspapers that a secret military agreement was signed regarding the military bases in the Middle East, and that a military base (?will be built) by the Pentagon in the vicinity of the Red Sea.

The bases which the United States and Israel are building are to play a major role for the presence of U.S. military might in the Persian Gulf and on the Arabian Peninsula. This particular area, according to U.S. President Jimmy Carter, is apparently vital as far as the national security of the United States and that of the NATO allies is concerned. The question under discussion is: Why are Americans interested in the Persian Gulf and Saudi Arabia thousands of miles away from the United States?

U.S. military authorities are jeopardizing the security and independence of the oil-producing countries in the Persian Gulf. This is where the oil monopolies plunder 700 million tons of oil annually and pocket billions of dollars. The economic and political influence which the United States lost because of the national revolution in our country, and vis-a-vis the national and anti-imperialist policy of the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government, and because of the toppling of the former shah's regime and the disintegration of CENTO, in order to rebuild its military policy, the United States is now negotiating for a new base to continue that same colonialization policy in that region.

The United States has put this type of base in the Egyptian-Israeli treaty so as to have a military presence in the area between the Indian Ocean and our territory. The Pentagon declared that it has started (?building) a fleet of 20 military vessels in the Indian Ocean. The big U.S. military base on the island of Diego Garcia and U.S. military bases in Egypt and Israel and also the U.S. military presence in Oman, in Saudi Arabia and in Bahrain should, according to Pentagon plans, complete a strategic semicircle in the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

Regarding this problem, the [word indistinct] observers of the Persian Gulf rightfully believe that the United States' unprecedented activity at present in our region is in many ways reminiscent of the United States' military adventures in (?Vietnam) which had such a disgraceful end. After the downfall of the former shah in our country, Saudi Arabia will now play the role of safeguarding the interests of U.S. plunderers in the Persian Gulf. To safeguard these very interests, Washington is busy forming a military pact with the participation of Saudi Arabia, Oman and also Pakistan. However, the nations of the Persian Gulf which have thrown the CENTO pact into the dustbin of history will also defeat this treaty-making policy of the United States.

NVOI DISCUSSES RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS

TA092210 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 2100 GMT 9 Apr 79 TA

[Unattributed Commentary]

[Text] After our heroic nation's comforting victory, we are faced with the resolution of urgent economic, social and educational matters. Of these, the resolution of economic problems is indeed the most pressing. As a result of the struggles and those which determined the destiny of Iran's revolutionary people, all the economic, industrial and production institutions closed down. In addition, the murderous regime was crippled.

During the last several months of the bloody struggles, by crippling the economic and administrative machinery, the tremendous might of the workers and employees brought the former shah's puppet regime to the threshold of bankruptcy and its downfall.

After the victorious revolution, we are now facing different economic problems including industrial and agricultural problems.

Most of our production establishment are closed down. It is said that the number of the unemployed exceeds 3 and ½ million

It is impossible for the workers and for the masses to continue under these circumstances, since their livelihood depends on economic activities.

During the short period of its activity, the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government has taken the initial steps for the operation of our country's economic and production machinery.

The difficulties of factories and establishments are not only because the owners and managers of some of these establishments have fled and have left them unattended, or because the workers are no longer willing to obey their owners and managers. The difficulties of the majority of our industry and production establishments are because generally they were not established on the basis of our internal possibilities and not even on our country's specific needs. From the point of view of raw materials as well as from the point of view of spare parts, etc., they are dependent on Western monopolies.

According to the recommendations and in compliance with its U.S. and British masters, that murderous regime destroyed Iran's industry and its establishments. Therefore, in order to resolve these problems and difficulties, specific methods are needed to carry out these programs. They should be based on accurate or almost accurate calculations of our country's long-and short-term demands and supplies.

In order to draw up such programs, the interests of workers and the interests of millions of consumers should be borne in mind. If the workers and laborers are convinced of the trustworthiness of the government's programs and of the government's honesty in carrying out those programs, and if the workers accept the responsibility for safeguarding the vital interests of the people, the resolution of economic problems will be easy.

As we mentioned, some of the factories have been closed down because their owners and managers fled the country. The people rightfully expect that the revolutionary Islamic government will take revolutionary and befitting measures not only with regard to these fugitives, but also with regard to those traitors, who, taking advantage of the support of the former authorities, plundered the workers. Those authorities plundered the Iranian people for dozen of years.

Cooperating with the former parasite regime and with its Western masters, they amassed billions of dollars. Whatever these parasites and imperialist wolves gained by emptying our country's treasury and the pockets of our people, (?belongs) to the revolutionary governmant. The revolutionary government should deprive these parasites, who plundered the peoples' money for years, who fled from Iran with suitcases of money, jewelry and (?antiques), who are living in their mansions and villas abroad, and are conspiring against the Islamic Republic, should undoubtedly encourage the people and the workers to reestablish the economy and its effective growth.

The interests of the Islamic Republic and the interests of the people demand that decisive measures are taken to resolve our problems.

NVOI DEFENDS HOVEYDA EXECUTION, SCORES U.S. INTERFERENCE

TA182202 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 2100 GMT 10 Apr 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "Our People Approve of the Punishment of Traitors and Criminals"]

[Text] Dear compatriots, the issuance of just sentences by the Islamic revolutionary courts against a handful of traitors and criminals has caused deep concern in the West and in particular has made the heads of the former regime think twice about human rights. To determine the reason, first of all, we should realize that by judging the murderers and the stooges of imperialism and by carrying out the sentences of revolutionary Islamic courts, the neocolonialist circles are losing their last marbles.

Having been formed by the specific wishes of the Iranian people, the revolutionary courts study the cases of treason and corruption committed by individuals who trampled Islamic principles and even the government's laws for years and committed grotesque murders among the noble Iranian people, and then they sentence them. Those who directly participated in killing Iranians and plundering their wealth are being judged in the revolutionary Islamic courts according to all the principles and measures of the law. All the sentences pronounced in these courts are so far supported by the indignant people of Iran.

As we know, one of these revolutionary Islamic courts studied Amir 'Abbas Hoveyda's dossier of crimes and treason. Hoveyda, the former prime minister of the former shah, was a known agent of U.S., British and Israeli intelligence organizations, who, basing his actions on his position as prime minister for 13 years, became an accomplice in crimes and treason against our people. The revolutionary Islamic court condemned Amir 'Abbas Hoveyda, the secretary general of the Rastakmiz Party, for treason to his country and for the numerous murders he committed against the people, sentenced him to death and carried out the sentence.

With a view to the black record of Amir 'Abbas Hoveyda, whose hands were never stained with blood, but who left the door open for 13 years of plundering by Western monopolies and U.S. imperialism and who made all the crimes and treason committed by the former shah seem legal, the death sentence in the case of this slave to the former shah's dynasty was a lawful and fair reward.

With regard to the execution of the murderous and traitor Hoveyda, the United States, Britain and a few other Western countries, who lost their beloved obedient servant, expressed their dissatisfaction with the revolutionary Islamic sentences and shed tears over the death of their black slave.

Mr Amir Entezam, (?spokesman) for the government, said the following about Amir 'Abbas Hoveyda: "Hoveyda was a criminal and was tried and punished on the basis of evidence the court had at its disposal." Regarding the protection which Hoveyda had from abroad, Entezam stated clearly that the reason for protection was because Hoveyda was a defender of their interests and his execution actually damaged those interests. These are some facts which all of Hoveyda's supporters know.

The question is, why are these protectors of criminal Hoveyda and the murderous SAVAK thinking of human rights and humanity at this time? For more than 25 years, SAVAK, a U.S. creation, tortured the people of Iran and killed tens of thousands without trial. The functionaries of the former shah carried out all these murders upon the orders of U.S. advisors. During that dark and stifling period, those so-called defenders of human rights did not utter a word for the defense of human rights of the deprived and noble Iranian people. Now that these thieves, these agents, these murderers and aggressors of the honor, of the rights and prestige of millions of Iranian people are being punished, they talk about human rights and about humanity. The Western circles, which used to interfere in our country's affairs for years, do not want to accept the fact that the situation in our country is entirely different and that there is no room for their meddling.

The revolutionary Islamic courts and the punishment of traitors and criminals is an internal matter and no one has the right to interfere in these affairs. Let the Carters, Brzezinskis, Vances, etc. mourn the death of their black slaves and let them shed tears. If the death of Nasiris, Rahimis, Azemuns and Hoveydas, all from the fabric of Nasiri, is reason for public mourning for the imperialist authorities, it is a joy and pleasure for the people of Iran tens of thousands of whose sons were slaughtered by these criminals.

NVOI DISCUSSES UNEMPLOYMENT, RETROACTIVE PAY

TA102205 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 2100 GMT 10 Apr 79 TA

[Text] In their letter to Imam Khomeyni and to Mr Bazargan, the head of the Government of the Islamic Republic, a group of workers from Tehran, while expressing their concern over the difficult situation of the unemployed workers, donated their 1-day's pay to help their brethren. This gesture of the workers which is a sign of their sympathy toward their unemployed brethren, is undoubtedly worthy of praise. However, quick measures have to be taken to eliminate unemployment.

Not even 1 day passes without thousands of unemployed workers in Iran--even in Tehran--demonstrating in protest of their situation. Unfortunately, news related to this vital question seldom appears in the press, but the fact that it is not reflected in the press, does not minimize the significance of this problem. The problem is the living condition of millions of workers and their families, people who played a significant role in the fruition of our people's revolution and who can and should play their eminent part in the rebirth of the economy of a new Iran.

All our people and the managers of the newspapers admit that during the struggle against the bloody regime of the shah and during the crippling of the economic machinery, the most effective elements of the success of the revolution were our workers who shed their blood in the streets and on squares. Almost 2 months have passed since our successful revolution and millions of construction workers are (still) unemployed.

The Government of the Islamic Republic has scuceeded in opening up a few big establishments and in taking steps to assist the workers who are unemployed. However, the truth of the matter is that the effects of unemployment still threaten the lives of our country's workers and their families.

For months the unemployed workers have been deprived of their salaries. Under the present circumstances, the most important thing for the workers is to go back to their jobs and to receive their retroactive pay.

It is said that many factories and production companies are still closed down because, after exploiting and plundering their companies, the former managers fled the country with suitcases full of money, and the workers of such companies and factories are still unemployed.

The people rightfully think that with regard to such establishments, firms and factories, the government should expropriate them from the former owners and managers who committed treason against our country for years, who exploited and plundered the workers and specialists, and should assume the responsibility of running the factories, etc., with the assistance of trustworthy workers and specialists.

Life showed us that if the workers manage the affairs of production units and supervise their income and expenditures and if they have assurance that the result of their toil would not be squandered, both the quantity and quality of merchandise would be greatly increased, and the merchandise would reach the hands of consumers at a reasonable price.

In order to take the production units into their hands, a group of agents of Western monopolies used to sing the tune that they were the only people who were able to exploit these units. Everyone knows the result of these claims.

One of the ways to end the unemployment is to start the operation of these production units by deposing the parasites and usurpers. The government can be assured that through their spirit of sacrifice and creativity, the patriotic workers and specialists of our fatherland can raise the living standard to a satisfactory level so that both producers and consumers will be pleased. We should do our utmost to eliminate unemployment as soon as possible, because this problem is directly connected with the lives of millions of hardworking people of our fatherland.

NVOI ON WORKERS 'SACRIFICES,' U.S. IN INDIAN OCEAN

TA171257 [Editorial Report TA] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 15 April carries a commentary praising "the workers contribution to the revolution" and calling for "the improvement of their living standards." The commentary begins by saying that a group of workers have sent a letter to Imam Khomeyni and Prime Minister Bazargan "offering to donate a working day's wages to help their (?unemployed) brethren." The commentary praises this move "as a gesture demonstrating solidarity among the workers." It then stresses the workers contribution to the realization of the revolution and says that "Iranian workers tolerated daily deprivations and shed their blood in the streets and squares for the advancement of the revolution."

The commentary notes, however, that the workers problems cannot possibly be solved by mere donations, and urges the government to allow "the workers to participate in the management of various enterprises." It scores the shah's regime for delivering the country's main enterprises "to the middlemen of Western monopolies who claimed that only they could make the enterprises profitable." The commentary concludes that only workers themselves "can increase production and profitability, through sacrifices and productive work, because this is a problem that concerns them."

The radio then carries a commentary on U.S. Indian Ocean strategy. The commentary says that "the United States has investments worth tens of billions of dollars in the Indian Ocean countries," and that "on many occasions the U.S. leaders have stressed the importance of the Indian Ocean countries as a source of raw materials." The commentary adds that the United States also regards the Indian Ocean region as a strategically important area and "because of this, the Pentagon has been strengthening its military presence in the region." It says: "The Pentagon has established a wide network of military bases in the Indian Ocean region, from northeastern Australia to Thailand and across the Indian Ocean to the South African Republic." The commentary also says that "the United States has bases in the region which can accommodate most modern planes and warships," and in this context it refers to Diego Garcia "as a large base of the network in the area."

The commentary says: "Both President Carter and Defense Secretary Brown, and other U.S. officials, have openly stated that a great number of warships have been dispatched to the Indian Ocean. This confirms the great strategic aims of the United States." The commentary links this move to events in Iran and says that "the revolutionary change in Iran, the region's largest country, was bound to affect the strategic situation in the Persian Gulf."

At 1945 GMT on 16 April the radio carries a commentary supporting the trials by the Islamic revolutionary courts and scoring Western circles "for supporting criminals while talking of human rights." The commentary says that "revolutionary courts' members are just men" and those tried by them "are traitors and murderers who should be punished."

The radio then carries a commentary which says that "under the guise of setting up a defense organization, the United States wants to set up a new grouping in the Middle East to replace CENTO." The commentary also says that the United States is increasing its naval presence in the vicinity of the Persian Gulf, and that "the U.S. Navy's largest warship and other naval vessels are in that area." The commentary says that along with these moves, "the shah's remnants continue their activities designed to weaken the Islamic Republic by resorting to subversion and conspiracy."

After saying that "during the revolutionary events the United States, PRC and Israel embassies supported the shah," the commentary concludes: "The CIA has now directed all its efforts to creating discord and conflict among our country's national and democratic forces. But these conspiratorial efforts will not be able to suppress the national liberation movement in the Persian Gulf. The Americans will not be able to achieve their hostile and aggressive aims through conspiracies and coup attempts."

LATE REPORT: KURDS SEIZE SANANDAJ RADIO-TV STATION

NC191258 Paris AFP in English 1246 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Tehran, April 19 (AFP)--Armed partisans of the Kurdish Sunni Muslim leader Ahimad Moftizadeh have reoccupied the radio-television station in Sanandaj after evacuating it two days ago, an informed source said.

Tension continued to run high in the Kurdistan capital although the latest tally of votes showed that Mr Moftizadeh's candidates had won eight of the 11 seats in Friday's voting for the first autonomous city council. Mr Moftizadeh's men, who fired into the air on Saturday while protesting that the election was rigged, have now dropped plans to declare a holy war against the Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq (independent Marxists) and Union of Democratic Forces that set up a provisional revolutionary council during the fighting with Iranian troops there three weeks ago, the source said.

Mr Moftizadeh has the backing of the Iranian Government.

Government spokesman 'Abbas Amir Entezam today denied yesterday's reports that armed men of the Iraqi Kurdish Democratic Party had joined Mr Moftizadeh's partisans.

AFGHANISTAN

TARAKI MEETS WITH VISITING CUBAN MINISTER

BK181526 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 18 Apr 79 BK

[Text] The Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that Nur Mohammad Taraki, chairman of the Revolutionary Council, today received His Excellency Mr Rodriguez, the minister of iron and steel industry of Cuba, at the Hall of the People.

Presented at the meeting to the chairman of the Revolutionary Council was the official invitation of the Government of Cuba for participation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan at the next conference of heads of states and governments of the nonalined countries, scheduled to be held in Havana next September.

Present at the meeting were Mines and Industries Minister Mohammad Ismail Danesh and Cuban Ambassador to Kabul Raul Garcia Pelaez.

BANGLADESH

COMMUNIQUE ON INDIAN PRIME MINISTER DESAI'S VISIT

BK181721 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1428 GMT 18 Apr 79 BK

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency President Ziaur Rahman of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, Morarji Desai, prime minister of the Republic of India, paid an official good-will visit to Bangladesh from 16-18 April.

The prime minister laid a wreath at the Jatiyo Shaheed Smriti Shaudho (National Memorial for Martyrs) at Savar. He also visited the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute at Joydedpur.

On behalf of the citizens of Dacca, the mayor of Dacca presented a key of the city to the prime minister. The prime minister of India had discussions with the president of Bangladesh. Discussions were also held between the delegations of the two countries at which the prime minister of India was assisted by Atal Bihari Vajpayee, minister of external affairs; V. Shankar, principal secretary to the prime minister; J.S. Mehta, foreign secretary; and other senior officials. The president of Bangladesh was assisted by His Excellency Justice Abdus Sattar, vice president; His Excellency Shah Azizur Rahman, prime minister; His Excellency Dr A.Q.M. Badruddozza Chowdhury, senior deputy prime minister; His Excellency Maudud Ahmed, deputy prime minister; His Excellency Prof Mohammad Shamsul Haq, minister for foreign affairs; His Excellency Saifur Rahman, minister for commerce; His Excellency Capt (retired) Nurul Haq, minister for ports, shipping and inland water transport; His Excellency S.A.M.S. Kibria, foreign secretary; and other senior officials of the Government of Bangladesh.

These discussions were held in a spirit of great cordiality and mutual understanding and covered bilateral, regional and international issues. The talks confirmed their common desire to consolidate and further strengthen the existing friendly relations between the two countries. The two leaders reaffirmed that the role of the nonalignment movement was an important factor in promoting peace and understanding among nations. In this respect they stressed the need to preserve the unity and solidarity of the nonalined countries.

The two leaders reviewed the international situation and emphasized that peace and stability could be ensured only by strict adherence to the purposes and principles of the United Nations charter, especially respect for sovereignty, equality and territorial integrity, noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, nonuse of force and peaceful settlement of all disputes.

The president and the prime minister expressed their conviction that beneficial cooperation among the countries of south Asia in a climate of mutual respect and equality and the resolution of all bilateral problems through peaceful negotiations would contribute towards durable peace in the region. The president and the prime minister reaffirmed their commitment to raising the quality of life of all their peoples regardless of their economic, social, religious and other differences.

The president and the prime minister reiterated their firm commitment to take all necessary steps for the optimum utilisation of the water resources available to them. It was agreed that a mutually acceptable solution for the long term augmentation of the Ganges waters should be found as quickly as possible. The problems relating to some of the border rivers were discussed. It was agreed that the Joint Rivers Commission initiate immediate actions to resolve these problems to the mutual satisfaction of both the countries. It was decided that the Joint Rivers Commission would also work out an agreement on the sharing of the waters of Teesta at an early date.

The two leaders discussed the delay in the implementation of the land boundary agreement of 1974 and agreed that all necessary measures [as received] taken to overcome the difficulties in order that the agreement could be implemented as speedily as possible. It was agreed that the two sides would resume negotiations at an early date to resolve the question of the maritime boundary on a mutually satisfactory basis.

The two leaders agreed that great possibilities existed for increasing cooperation in economic, trade, agriculture, shipping and technical fields, including the establishment of joint ventures. In that context some specific export-oriented projects such as the manufacture of cement, sponge, iron and urea fertilizer were identified.

Two sides stressed the need for augmenting and diversifying trade between the two countries, particularly with a view to reducing the existing trade imbalance. It was agreed that infrastructural facilities, including transport and telecommunication, should be improved. Cooperation in the fields of education, culture, information and science and technology was also discussed. It was noted that there was considerable scope for expanding such cooperation.

Bound as the two countries are by ties of geography, history, traditions and culture, the leaders reiterated the importance of mutual exchange of high level visits and recognized that such periodic visits were necessary for maintaining and further developing close and friendly relations between them. Both sides noted with satisfaction that the visit of the presidentof Bangladesh to India in December 1977 and of the foreign minister of Bangladesh in December 1978 had made an important contribution to developing friendly cooperation and enhancing mutual understanding between the two countries.

Expressing their satisfaction at the results of the visits of the prime minister of India, the two sides noted that their fruitful and constructive discussions had contributed greatly towards increasing mutual trust and friendship between the two countries.

The prime minister of India expressed his sincere gratitude to the president, the government and the people of Bangladesh for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and the members of his party during their stay in Bangladesh. The prime minister of India extended invitations to the president and the prime minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to visit India. The invitations were gratefully accepted.

INDIA

INDIA MAKES CLEAR TO CHINA ITS POSITION ON BOUNDARIES

BK190845 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 19 Apr 79 BK

[Text] India has made clear to China that the true traditional boundary between the two countries is the one shown by India. This information was given in the Lok Sabha in a written reply today by Minister of State for External Affairs Somarendra Kundu. He said that since September 1959, China has raised claim to about 50,000 square miles of Indian territory in Arunachal Pradesh Ladakh, and in the middle sector. Nearly 44,500 square miles of Indian territory is under the illegal occupation of China and Pakistan. An additional area of about 2,000 square miles of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir was illegally ceded by Pakistan to China under the so-called Sino-Pak agreement of 1963, he added.

KUNDU ON U.S. ARMS SUPPLIES TO PAKISTAN

BK190925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Apr 79 BK

[Text] India has emphasized to the U.S. Government from time to time that the supply of sophisticated military equipment to Pakistan is not conducive to the progressive normalization of India-Pakistan relations. This was stated by Minister of State for External Affairs Mr Somarendra Kundu in the Lok Sabha today. He said the inflow of arms might inject an element of instability in the subcontinent.

The minister also stated that the U.S. Government has announced that the supply of defensive arms to both India and Pakistan will be continued on a nondiscriminatory basis.

In another written reply, Mr Kundu said that the government is aware that substantial quantities of modern arms have been supplied to Pakistan by China.

U.S. VIEW ON URANIUM SUPPLY OBLIGATION REJECTED

BK181745 Hong Kong AFP in English 0957 GMT 18 Apr 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Apr (AFP)--India today rejected the views expressed by members of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission that noncompliance with the American law on full-scope safeguards would relieve that country of its contractual obligation to continue the supply of enriched uranium for the Tarapur atomic powerplant near Bombay.

Answering questions in the lower house of Parliament, Prof Sher Singh, junior minister for atomic energy, maintained that stoppage of the fuel supplies would constitute a material breach of the contract by the U.S. Such an eventuality would also completely relieve India from any obligation to adhere to the restrictive clauses of the agreement, including the application of safeguards, he said. It has been made clear by Indian authorities earlier that violation of the contract by the U.S. would make India free to seek alternate arrangements for fueling the plant.

Prime Minister Morarji Desai, who is also in charge of atomic energy, informed the House in reply to a separate question that the Tarapur plant was operating at less than 80 percent capacity. He did not specify the reason, but there have been reports of the work at the project being affected by the delayed supply of uranium by the U.S.

PRIME MINISTER DESAI SPEAKS ON VISIT TO BANGLADESH

BK190917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Apr 79 BK

[Text] India is to supply 200,000 tons of foodgrains to Bangladesh. This was disclosed by the prime minister in the Lok Sabha today. He was making a statement on his visit to Bangladesh. Mr Morarji Desai said details of the deal are being worked out. Foodgrains will be returned by Bangladesh largely in kind.

The prime minister gave members details of the discussions he had with Bangladesh leaders, including the measures to expand mutual economic cooperation. The existing machinery for trade is being strengthened. He said the industry minister, Mr Fernandes, will have further discussions with the Bangladesh leaders on intensifying industrial collaboration in a number of fields, including machine tools, agro-based industries and biogas. About utilization of river waters, he said that the issue was further discussed during his talks in Bangladesh. It was agreed that an attempt should be made to secure optimum utilization of river waters. Local machinery will be set up to look into some of the aspects.

Mr Desai said that the Bangladesh leaders had assured him that it is the policy of the government to insure equal rights to all citizens and their security.

INTERIOR MINISTER ISSUES WARNING ON RECENT COMMUNAL RIOTS

OW181902 Hong Kong AFP in English 1850 GMT 18 Apr 79 OW

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Apr (AFP)--Interior Minister H.M. Patel today declared that stringent action would be taken against anybody who was found, after proper enquiry, to have a hand in inciting or organising the recent communal riots in Jamshedpur, in Bihar state, northeastern India.

Mr. Patel was replying to a special debate in the lower house of Parliament on the incident in which between 110 and 500 people had lost their lives during bloody fighting between Hindus, Muslims and police forces at the steel manufacturing city of Jamshedpur last week. While official reports put the death toll at 108, various opposition parties put the figure at between 150 and 500.

Mr Patel said 38,500 people had been lodged in nine camps in the wake of the disturbances. The overwhelming majority of them were Muslims, but there was a relatively small number of Hindus also, he said. The number of houses reported to be completely destroyed was put at 300 only.

The minister, who visited the affected area yesterday, warned the house that though the situation had been brought under control, tension still existed in that city. It would be necessary to be extremely vigilant while tension continued, he added.

In the debate there were all-round expressions of regret over what had happened and calls for effective action on the part of the authorities to prevent recurrence of such "shameful incidents" in future. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), volunteer group of the militant Hindus, came under attack from both the opposition side as well as a section of ruling Janata Party itself. Critics of the RSS say that it was against Muslims and the communal riot was fomented by it. Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's former Jan Sangh Party, one of the constituents of the Janata Party, is considered to be the political wing of RSS.